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**Draft**  
**Information Management Plan**  
**for the**  
**Convention on Migratory Species**

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A/N 17967

WCMC Repots 99

## PROJECT SUMMARY

The aim of this project is to deliver an information management plan for the *Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals* that, when carried out, will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of CMS implementation, and ensure an effective contribution by CMS to harmonised reporting and information management by biodiversity-related treaties.

The plan covers the CMS itself, and also provides advice relevant to the *Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe*, the *Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas*, the *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement* and the *Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area*.

It is important to appreciate what the information management plan is addressing and what it is not.

- ✱ The information management plan is *not* a strategy for communicating information about the Convention and its associated agreements to a given audience, *nor* is it a plan for managing the business of Convention administration.
- ✓ The information management plan is concerned with the collection, management and dissemination of the scientific and management information that is necessary for effective implementation of the convention.

The information management plan is based on a review of current practices and procedures, and an assessment of information management needs and capabilities. The project was initiated 3 December 1998 when the formal administrative requirements of UNEP were met, and the results are being presented to the Standing Committee in January 1999. Because of the short time available before the Standing Committee meeting, there will inevitably be shortcomings in the draft plan that will be addressed following the meeting.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

Effective and efficient conservation action requires information on which to base planning and decision making. In implementing the Convention and related agreements, the CMS and agreement secretariats, Scientific Council, Standing Committee and all Contracting Parties use information to identify and plan actions that need to be taken, to monitor the effects of those actions, and to report on the consequences in various fora.

If information is collected and managed in a consistent and co-ordinated manner, this will ensure that:

- ☐ information collected can be used for more than one purpose;
- ☐ information is only requested from Parties when necessary;
- ☐ information is not requested from Parties when it is readily available elsewhere;
- ☐ information from various sources is combined;
- ☐ information collection and management is more cost-effective; and
- ☐ decisions are taken with appropriate and adequate information.

The secretariats of the biodiversity-related treaties have recognised that they have an obligation to be as efficient and responsive as possible in managing and using information, and with this in mind, the Sixth Meeting on Co-ordination of Secretariats of Environmental Conventions, held under the auspices of the UNEP Governing Council, initiated a feasibility study for a harmonised information management infrastructure for biodiversity-related treaties.

## 1.2 Mandate

The Strategy for the future development of the Convention, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its Fourth Meeting in June 1994, implies the following priority actions relevant to development of an information management plan:

- ☐ improvement in information management and use in implementing the Convention
- ☐ increased availability and co-ordination of information on migratory species
- ☐ increased collaboration with other biodiversity-related conventions

A draft proposal on development of an information management plan for the Convention was submitted to the Conference of the Parties at its Fifth Meeting in April 1997 (attachment to UNEP/CMS/Conf.5.7.1) and discussed under Agenda Item 10a *Harmonisation of the reporting system under CMS and related agreements* (paragraphs 79-91 of the *Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties*).

The funds for development of the information management plan were approved by the Conference of the Parties (allocation of US\$30,000 in budget line 2103), and in December 1998 UNEP endorsed the project proposal developed by WCMC and the CMS Secretariat for developing the information management plan.

### 1.3 Objectives

The information management plan is intended to provide impetus for improvement in the collection, management and use of the information necessary for effective implementation of CMS and its associated agreements. It should enable CMS to become an effective central agency for a network of internationally co-ordinated activities on migratory species. Ultimately this will lead to an improved ability to achieve the objectives of the Convention and each Agreement through co-ordination of reporting and information management activities. This will lead to:

- ☐ more cost-efficient information management;
- ☐ significant increase in available information to support biodiversity conservation;
- ☐ improved linkages between secretariats, and between secretariats and other major international programmes;
- ☐ reduced pressure on Parties through more efficient sharing of information; and
- ☐ increase in information available to Parties.

The information management plan provides clear guidance on the steps that need to be taken to improve the collection, management and use of the information necessary for effective implementation of CMS and its associated agreements.

### 1.4 Coverage

Following discussion with the CMS Secretariat, the scope of the project was restricted to the Convention itself, to the two legally binding agreements established under Article IV(3) and Article IV(4) which are already in force:

- ☐ *Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas*, (ASCOBANS)
- ☐ *Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe* (EUROBATS)

and the two legally binding agreements established under Article IV(3) and Article IV(4) which are expected to come into force during 1999:

- ☐ *African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement* (AEWA)
- ☐ *Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area* (ACCOBAMS)

The *Agreement on the Conservation of Seals in the Wadden Sea* and the memoranda of understanding on Siberian Crane and Slender-Billed Curlew are not covered.

### 1.5 Working methods

The following activities formed part of the project:

- ☐ review of information needs
- ☐ review of current information sources
- ☐ review of the relationship to other biodiversity-related treaties
- ☐ assessment of information dissemination requirements
- ☐ review of information management needs and capabilities
- ☐ preparation of the information management plan

Each activity involved review of written material and discussion with representatives of the CMS Secretariat and the secretariats of various agreements. The timescale of the project, and its timing over the holiday period (the contract was agreed by UNEP in December) meant that discussion prior to drafting the information management plan was less than might have been hoped. This will be rectified during review following the Standing Committee meeting in January 1999.

It had also been intended that draft reports for each activity would be available for review by members of the various secretariats, the Scientific Council and the Standing Committee, prior to drafting of the information management plan. Again, this was impossible in the time finally available for drafting of the report for presentation to the Standing Committee in January 1999.

## 2 ASSESSMENT OF INFORMATION NEEDS

The initial paragraphs and the associated tables in this section (see Table 1) provide an assessment of what information is required for effective implementation of the Convention, and what additional information is desirable. Specifically it will:

- ☐ Review the Convention and agreements (including conference resolutions and recommendations) to clarify current requirements.
- ☐ Review with the secretariats and the Chairman of the CMS Scientific Council the programme of activities and the information required to implement it, including project work and development of agreements.

### 2.1 Convention text

Table 1.1 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 20 articles of the Convention. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### 2.2 Conference resolutions

Table 1.2 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 38 conference resolutions. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### 2.3 Strategy for the future development of the Convention

Table 1.3 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the *Strategy for the future development of the Convention* annexed to Resolution 5.4. The priorities and actions covered in the annex to the earlier Resolution 4.4 have not been covered separately. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

The Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties will consider a revised strategy for the future development of the Convention, which will shortly be reviewed by the Standing Committee. Table 1.4 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the draft strategy at this preliminary stage of its development.

### 2.4 Conference recommendations

Table 1.5 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 12 conference recommendations. By their nature the information requirements of the recommendations are more specific, and although some of the activities will by now have been undertaken they are all included here as they are indicative of potential future information needs arising from conference recommendations. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

## 2.6 Roles of the Standing Committee

Table 1.6 provides an assessment of the information requirements of the Standing Committee implied by Resolution 2.5. For the moment it is assumed that it is the responsibility of the Secretariat to compile information required by the Standing Committee, which may not be true in all cases.

## 2.7 Roles of the Scientific Council

Table 1.7 provides an assessment of the information requirements of the Scientific Council implied by Article VIII of the Convention, and Conference Resolutions 5.2, 5.5, 4.5, 3.4 and 1.4. In some cases these mandates are duplicative, and in some cases out of date, but all are retained in this table for clarity. For the moment it is assumed that it is the responsibility of the Secretariat to compile information required by the Scientific Council, which may not be true in all cases.

## 2.8 Analysis of defined needs

This section takes the tables described in the previous sections, and provides an analysis of information requirements for both the Secretariat and the Parties in implementing the Convention. Specifically this section aims to:

- ☐ Summarise the key information needs identified by a review of the mandates arising from the Convention and the Conferences of the Parties.
- ☐ Summarise the key information needs identified by a review of the mandates arising from various Agreements and their Meetings of the Parties.
- ☐ Separate the information needs of the Secretariat and the Parties themselves.

### 2.8.1 Analysis of Secretariat information requirements

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 1.1 to 1.7 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Convention text itself, in the Conference resolutions and recommendations, and in the strategy for the future development of the Convention. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 1.8(a)
- ☐ Assessments -Table 1.8(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 1.8(c)
- ☐ Information management activities - Table 1.8(d)

These tables include a column which identified the likely sources of information (including the reports covered in sections 4.1.1 and 4.1.2), which is discussed in more detail in later sections.

### 2.8.2 Analysis of the information requirements of Parties

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 1.1 to 1.5 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Convention text itself, in the Conference resolutions and recommendations, and in the strategy for the future development of the Convention. Note that this does not explicitly cover the information required for the Party reports and amendment to the appendices, which is covered below. The requirements have been divided into five groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 1.9(a)
- ☐ Assessments - Table 1.9(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 1.9(c)
- ☐ Reporting - Table 1.9(d)
- ☐ Specific taxa issues - Table 1.9(e)

As noted earlier, by their nature the information requirements of the recommendations tend to be more specific, and although some of the activities will by now have been undertaken they were included in the tables and the analysis as they are indicative of potential future information needs arising from conference recommendations. Table 3.5 on specific taxa issues arises solely as a result of taxa-specific recommendations.

This report cannot effectively cover all sources of information at the national level, and restricts itself to information that is required from outside the country, where the Secretariat has a potential role in facilitating access to the information.

## **2.9 Standard reporting formats**

### ***2.9.1 Format for reports from Parties***

Table 1.10 identifies the agreed formats for the Party reports, both the initial comprehensive report and the updating report. The format is mandated by Conference Resolution 4.1.

### ***2.9.2 Format for proposals for amendment of appendices***

Table 1.11 identifies the agreed format for proposals for amendment of the appendices, as mandated by Conference Resolution 1.5.

### ***2.9.3 Format for reviews of species “undergoing” concerted actions***

Table 1.12 identifies the agreed format for reviews of species which are the subject of concerted actions, as set out in the annex to Conference Resolution 3.2.

### 3. ASSESSMENT OF THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF AGREEMENTS

The paragraphs and the associated tables in this section provide an assessment of what information is required for effective implementation of each of the Agreements covered, and what additional information is desirable. Specifically it will:

- ☐ Review the Agreements (including resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties) to clarify current requirements.
- ☐ Review with the secretariats the programme of activities and the information required to implement it, including project work.

This section also provides an analysis of information requirements for both the secretariats and the Parties in the Agreements described. Specifically this aims to:

- ☐ Summarise the key information needs identified by a review of the mandates arising from the Convention and the Conferences of the Parties.
- ☐ Summarise the key information needs identified by a review of the mandates arising from various Agreements and their Meetings of the Parties.
- ☐ Separate the information needs of the Secretariat and the Parties themselves.

#### 3.1 ASCOBANS

The analysis for the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas can be found in Table 2.

##### 3.1.1 Agreement text

Table 2.1 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the eight paragraphs of the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

##### 3.1.2 Agreement annex - Conservation Management Plan

Table 2.2 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the *conservation management plan* annexed to the Agreement. Resolution 1.2 of the Meeting of the Parties prioritises and interprets this plan, but only adds one new item relevant to information needs. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

##### 3.1.3 Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties

Table 2.3 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 12 resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.1.4 Roles of the Advisory Committee**

Table 2.4 provides an assessment of the information requirements of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee implied by Resolutions 2.5 and 1.5 of the Meeting of the Parties. For the moment it is assumed that it is the responsibility of the Secretariat to compile information required by the Advisory Committee, which may not be true in all cases.

The Advisory Committee has established a Working Group on Marine Pollution to maintain a “watching brief” on information and developments in this area.

### **3.1.5 Analysis of Secretariat information requirements**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 2.1 to 2.4 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its Annex, and the resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 2.5(a)
- ☐ Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States - Table 2.5(b)
- ☐ Accessing experience - Table 2.5(c)
- ☐ Information management activities - Table 2.5(d)

These tables include a column which identified the likely sources of information (including the reports covered in sections 3.2.7).

### **3.1.6 Analysis of the information requirements of Parties**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 2.1 to 2.4 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its Annex, in the resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. Note that this does not explicitly cover the information required for the Party reports, which are covered in the next chapter. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 2.6(a)
- ☐ Assessments - Table 2.6(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 2.6(c)
- ☐ Reporting - Table 2.6(d)

This report cannot effectively cover all sources of information at the national level, and restricts itself to information that is required from outside the country, where the Secretariat has a potential role in facilitating access to the information.

### **3.1.7 Format for reports from Parties**

Table 2.7 identifies the agreed formats for the Party reports, both the tri-annual national report and the brief annual report. The format for the latter is mandated by Resolution 1.1 of the Meeting of the Parties, while the former has been drawn up recently by the Secretariat working with the Advisory Committee.

## **3.2 EUROBATS**

The analysis for the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe can be found in Table 3.

### **3.2.1 Agreement text**

Table 3.1 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 14 Articles of the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.2.2 Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties**

Table 3.2 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 15 resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.2.3 Conservation and management plan**

Table 3.3 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 18 articles of the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.2.4 Roles of the Advisory Committee**

Table 3.4 provides an assessment of the information requirements of the Advisory Committee implied by the various resolutions of the Second Session of the Meeting of the Parties. For the moment it is assumed that it is the responsibility of the Secretariat to compile information required by the Advisory Committee, which may not be true in all cases.

### **3.2.5 Analysis of Secretariat information requirements**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 3.1 to 3.4 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and the resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 3.5(a)
- ☐ Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States - Table 3.5(b)
- ☐ Accessing experience and sharing information - Table 3.5(c)
- ☐ Information management activities - Table 3.5(d)

These tables include a column which identified the likely sources of information (including the reports covered in sections 3.2.7), which is discussed in more detail in later sections.

### **3.2.6 Analysis of the information requirements of Parties**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 3.1 to 3.4 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and the resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 3.6(a)
- ☐ Assessments - Table 3.6(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 3.6(c)
- ☐ Reporting - Table 3.6(d)

This report cannot effectively cover all sources of information at the national level, and restricts itself to information that is required from outside the country, where the Secretariat has a potential role in facilitating access to the information.

### **3.2.7 Format for reports from Parties**

Table 7.5 identifies the agreed format of national reports, as mandated by Resolution 7 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> session of the Meeting of Parties.

## **3.3 AEWA**

The analysis for the African Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement can be found in Table 4.

### **3.3.1 Agreement text**

Table 4.1 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 18 articles of the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.3.2 Agreement Annex III - Action Plan**

Table 4.2 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the *action* annexed to the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.3.3 Analysis of Interim Secretariat information requirements**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 4.1 and 4.2 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its annexed *Action Plan*. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 4.3(a)
- ☐ Compilation & assessment based on information from Range States - Table 4.3(b)
- ☐ Accessing experience - Table 4.3(c)
- ☐ Information management activities - Table 4.3(d)

### **3.3.4 Analysis of the information requirements of Parties**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 4.1 to 4.2 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its annexed *Action Plan*. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 4.4(a)
- ☐ Assessments - Table 4.4(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 4.4(c)
- ☐ Reporting - Table 4.4(d)

### **3.3.5 Format for reports from Parties**

No format for reports has yet been agreed, as the Agreement is not yet in force and a Meeting of Parties has yet to take place.

## **3.4 ACCOBAMS**

The analysis for the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area can be found in Table 5.

### **3.4.1 Agreement text**

Table 5.1 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the 17 articles of the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.4.2 Agreement Annex 2 – Conservation Plan**

Table 5.2 provides an assessment of the information requirements implied by the *Conservation Plan* annexed to the Agreement. The implications for the Secretariat and for Parties are separately identified.

### **3.4.3 Analysis of Interim Secretariat information requirements**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 5.1 and 5.2 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its annexed *Conservation Plan*. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 5.3(a)
- ☐ Compilation and assessment - Table 5.3(b)
- ☐ Accessing and sharing information - Table 5.3(c)
- ☐ Information management activities - Table 5.3(d)

#### **3.4.4 Analysis of the information requirements of Parties**

An analysis of the information contained in Tables 5.1 to 5.2 covers all of the information requirements identified in the Agreement and its annexed *Conservation Plan*. The requirements have been divided into four groups:

- ☐ Simple lists - Table 5.4(a)
- ☐ Assessment - Table 5.4(b)
- ☐ Conservation measures - Table 5.4(c)
- ☐ Reporting - Table 5.4(d)

#### **3.4.5 Format for reports from Parties**

No format for reports has yet been agreed, as the Agreement is not yet in force and a Meeting of Parties has yet to take place.

## 4. TYPES OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ROLE

A review of the tables derived in the previous sections provides an indication of the types of information management task that is required for implementation of the Convention and related Agreements. Similar tasks will require similar solutions. Where all of the Agreement secretariats have a similar information need, there is clearly an advantage in that need being met in a harmonised manner rather than independently by each Agreement secretariat.

### 4.1 List management

A series of lists required by the Secretariat and Parties are identified for implementation of the Convention and the Agreements. In most cases these are already maintained using simple databases or documents that are added to regularly. Dissemination of the information is achieved through paper reports and the Convention and Agreement websites.

There are several associated issues:

- a) *Lists should be maintained as one copy* and not as multiple copies. Any modification of information in a list should be made once only.
- b) There are *good reasons for integrating data*, and the basic lists often provide the most obvious point of access. For example, from lists of species on the appendices to information on status and distribution, and from lists of Parties to information contained in national reports.
- c) There are opportunities to *link lists in providing information*. For example, the range state information can be used to link the lists of Parties and the species lists from the appendices.
- d) One of the lists (List 3 in Table 2.5) could be implemented as an *open list* to which anyone can add meetings. This could be achieved cost-effectively as a web-based list to which users (or a restricted list of users) could add further meetings.

Most of the lists required by Parties are derived from the lists provided by the secretariat. The one exception is the compilation of a list of NGOs appropriate for collaboration in CMS implementation at the national level (List 3 in Table 1.9).

### 4.2 Compilation, assessment and associated data management

A significant number of the tasks identified require the compilation of information from Parties and other sources, and presentation of the information in a manner that is useful for those involved in implementation of the Convention and its agreements.

While compilation of information does not require any particular expertise, unless the information is provided in standard formats, this can cause problems for those responsible for compilation. There are three potential solutions:

- a) Provide adequate *guidelines* and a *standard format* to be used by those providing the information, so that the information is received in a relatively standard form and can be readily incorporated into whatever compiled format is required.
- b) Provide a *database* into which the information can be entered, either as a stand-alone database, the contents of which can then be downloaded into a central database, or a web-accessible database where information can be entered directly.
- c) Ensure that the compilation is made by someone with appropriate expertise to take decisions on the information when necessary.

Clearly the first option is the simplest, and the most frequently used (for example the use of standard formats for Party reports). The second option, creation of databases, is only necessary when the information collection task is regular and ongoing (for example the creation of a metadatabase by ASCOBANS for information on post-mortem analyses).

Assessment follows on from compilation of information, but requires expertise in the subject matter to actually take the task on from information collection and compilation to assessment and recommendation based on the compilation. An example would be the systematic review of appendices, which requires information compiled from multiple sources and then the input of experts familiar with the Convention and its aims and a range of species conservation issues.

#### 4.3 Increasing access to available information

There is an obligation on Parties to make information that they hold on migratory species available to other Parties. In many cases the types of information that should be made more widely available are explicitly identified, and mechanisms such as Party reports are already working to ensure that this happens to some extent. But this is not always sufficient.

Increased access to information can be ensured in one or more of the following ways:

- a) Compilation of the material into a *publication* or report that is copied to all Parties (or Range States) on a regular basis.
- b) Placing information on a *website*, where it can be accessed by those who may be interested (noting that the website will require advertising to ensure that those who need it can find it).
- c) Making available a list of *focal points* for specific types of information, who can then be contacted by those requiring information, when they require it.

There is an obligation on the secretariats to facilitate access to information that will further the implementation of the Convention and Agreements. In some cases this can be achieved through the circulation of Party reports, but may not be sufficient for all types of information.

Increased access to information can be ensured in one or more of the following ways:

- d) Providing *advice and guidance* on the types of material that Parties should be making available, and the mechanisms for disseminating or improving access to it.
- e) Be a *clearing house* for all information on migratory species provided by Parties and others, ensure that all relevant material is passed on to Parties and other Range States. This could be done reactively or proactively.

- f) Develop a *library service* with all Parties and other Range States providing copies of relevant information, which is then available for use by others under whatever arrangements seem appropriate.
- g) Developing a *metadatabase* of information sources to facilitate access to those sources. The aim of this is to facilitate the process of finding information. Types of information source would range from publications to databases, and from contact addresses to web sites.
- h) Developing *WWW tools* for more rapid location of relevant information on the Internet, such as virtual libraries, focused web search tools, or distributed databases. Note that there may be an opportunity for CMS to take a lead in developing an *Information Network on Migratory Species* on the Internet (see paragraph 4.6).

Whatever the form of delivery of the information, it is important to always maintain a record of its source, means of compilation, and whatever has been done with it since. There are standards that can be adopted for achieving this.

#### 4.4 Building an information service from the component parts

Compilation of information from a variety of sources was discussed above. More specific is the juxtaposition and integration of information from a range of sources so that it becomes both more meaningful and more accessible. All of the information described in the following paragraphs is already readily available to the Convention Secretariat.

For example:

- a) *List of species and countries*: Within the Convention on Migratory Species there are two basic lists, species, which are on either Appendix I or Appendix II, and countries which can be Parties and/or Range States. A database that integrates the two lists, and identifies the links between them can produce Range State lists for each of the Appendices, or for any given country or group of countries identify which listed species are found within those countries. This also facilitates revision and update, and it is noted that the Range State information currently requires review.
- b) *Standard format Information on species*: There are also two processes ongoing that require the compilation of information into a standard form - amendment of the Appendices, and the “concerted action” agenda. There are differences in the information collected (see Table 1.11 and Table 1.12), but they generally cover the same issues. Of the 76 species on Appendix I, 35 have been added as amendments, and 16 are currently covered by the resolutions on “concerted actions. Information has therefore been compiled on 31 Appendix I species since 1994, and significantly more on Appendix II species. This information is not readily available currently (it is only available in conference papers), but could form the basis for an information source on migratory species, particularly if this information was linked to the lists of species.
- c) *Party reports*: Each triennium Parties provide a standard format report (Table 1.10) which describes action being taken by each Party to implement the Convention. While these are available to Parties and others as a compilation, they are not made widely available. Linking each report to the list of countries would increase the accessibility of the information. Party reports are also likely to include information of direct relevance to status and conservation of species, which needs incorporating in or linking to the information described in the previous section.
- d) *Project Reports*: The Convention secures funding for a range of projects on migratory species, and each of these contain valuable assessments and recommendations. These assessments (not currently in a standard format) could supplement the standard format information described

above. In many cases the reports are specific to certain countries and make recommendations specific to certain countries. This information could be linked to the country lists described above.

If these component parts and no others were made available over the CMS website, for example, this would drastically increase the accessibility of the information.

In order to facilitate the process of making information more widely available (section 4.3), and integrating it into an information service of some kind (section 4.4), each of the reports identified above should be requested in an electronic format, and guidelines for submission of electronic reports should be developed. This would cover as a minimum:

- ☐ Party reports
- ☐ Proposals for amendment of the appendices
- ☐ Reports on “concerted action” species
- ☐ Project reports

#### 4.5 Linking information from multiple sources

The Secretariat already has available information from a range of sources, and can make this more widely available to others in a systematic manner. The Secretariat could also lead (or at least facilitate) a process to make information from multiple sources more widely available. This has already been touched on in Section 4.4.

For example:

- a) Many other agencies have information on species available in one format or another, which could supplement what has been compiled for CMS. For example, of the species on Appendix I, most are listed in the *IUCN Red List* and described in *Birds to Watch*, IUCN’s Species Survival Commission has prepared action strategies and plan which cover a number of others (see section 6), as has BirdLife International, and the Bern Convention in the context of its *Action Plans for Globally Threatened Birds in Europe*. CMS could work with these and other international agencies and programmes to make significantly more information available on each of the listed migratory species.
- b) Other international conventions compile relevant information from a number of sources. For example there are ## species from Appendix I also on CITES Appendix I or II, and similar information on status is available (see Table 7). Linking this information with that described on species in the previous section would add to the information resources available (see section 6).
- c) Many other web sites have information on or relevant to migratory species. CMS is in a position to take a strong lead in development of an *Information Network on Migratory Species* which would foster the development of information sources on migratory species on the Internet.

If the Secretariat were to begin such a process, and to advertise it widely, it could lead to an increasing amount of information becoming available on the Internet, so adding to the pool of information available.

Note: The initiative on the *Global Register of Migratory Species* also plans a series of web links, and this needs to be further investigated after the Standing Committee meeting.

#### 4.6 Sharing experience

A key area in international co-operation is not only the sharing of information, but the sharing of experience. The methods include most of those discussed in the previous section, but there is one additional aspect of dealing with sharing experience, the identification of "best practice" and the sharing of information on what works in what circumstances, and what does not.

Information on experience is probably best shared as a series of "case studies" in a relatively standard format, with comments from experts or expert committees on the relative merits of different methods and experiences, and feedback from those who have tried them. This is best managed as an ongoing process, as the learning process is constant.

While information can be shared through publications, workshops, individual websites, focal point networks, and all the other mechanisms listed above, there is significant merit in development of a web-accessible information resource on case studies and best practice that can be added to and commented on by all users. This also links to recommendations of the process which is trying to harmonise information management within and between the global biodiversity-related treaties (see paragraph 6.4).

Information can also be shared in a less structured manner using techniques such as email list servers and/or some form of web forum.

#### 4.7 Relationship between the Convention Secretariat and Agreements

Agreements concluded between Range States are the primary vehicle for conservation of species listed on Appendix II of the Convention. There are two corollaries to this:

- ☐ That the Agreement secretariats are responding to the information needs associated with the species covered by their particular Agreements
- ☐ That there is a range of Appendix II species not currently covered by the Agreements

The information management roles of the Agreement Secretariats are similar to those already described in the previous paragraphs, so this section concerns itself with the interface between the Convention Secretariat and the Agreement secretariats, and with the gaps not currently covered by Agreements or Agreements in development.

It is noted that there are attempts to harmonise the content and implementation of Agreements. Table 5.1 identifies the implied information requirements of the *guidelines for agreements* set out in Article V of the Convention. While not all of these information requirements are clearly laid out in the Agreements studied (see later sections), they are illustrative of the types of information thought to be required for implementation of Agreements for migratory species. The implications for the potential Agreement secretariats and Parties are separately identified. Discussion is also currently ongoing to develop *Guidelines on the harmonisation of Agreements*. Table 5.2 identifies the implied information requirements based on the papers submitted to the last Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CMS/Conf.5.10).

There are several areas that may require attention:

- a) The CMS Secretariat is required to report to the Conference of the Parties on *inter alia* the conservation of species listed on both the Appendices. The CMS Secretariat is also expected to ensure that information on the conservation of migratory species is available to other

biodiversity-related treaties, and to other relevant international organisations and agreements (see section 7.3).

As a matter of course the CMS Secretariat has access to the information required on Appendix I species, through Party reports and other sources. The situation is less clear for Appendix II species. Information on *some* Appendix II species is contained in reports from the Agreement Secretariats to the Conference of the Parties, but these are not in a standard format.

Steps should be taken to clarify the situation by creating a standard format for Agreement Secretariat reports to the CMS Conference of the Parties which ensures that the necessary information is presented, and also ensuring mechanisms to report on the other listed species that are not covered by any form of Agreement.

- b) If the CMS Secretariat develops more proactive mechanisms for compiling information on migratory species, such as developing a clearing house role, a library service or an information network, this should be developed in collaboration with the Agreement Secretariats.
- c) If the CMS Secretariat developed tools for information sharing, such as a series of mechanisms for sharing experience, such tools should be developed so that they are of benefit not only to the Convention itself but to the Agreements as well. Such an integrated approach would be more cost-effective, and would be a clear step in harmonisation of Agreement implementation.

Feedback suggests that currently the co-ordination between the CMS Secretariat and the agreement secretariats is not as efficient as it might be. Increased sharing of information resources could be a mechanism for achieving increased collaboration.

## 5 REVIEW OF INFORMATION SOURCES

This section aims to provide an assessment of how the information needs described in the previous sections are currently being addressed, and the adequacy of these mechanisms. Specifically it will:

- ☐ Review national reports currently available for the more recent meetings of the CMS COP and for the other agreements, and assess their format, coverage and adequacy.
- ☐ Review a range of other reports commissioned or requested by the secretariats.

### 5.1 Party reports

Each Party is obliged to regularly provide reports on implementation of the Convention in a standard format (see Table 1.10), and those received are bound and provided to Party members and others as required. This is a major means of collecting information on implementation, and provides a useful record of action and achievement. However, while the reports generally follow the agreed format, there appear to be potential shortcomings in the current process:

- a) The reports vary considerably in the level of detail provided (for example, the reports submitted in 1997 range from three pages to 30 pages long). This could be tackled by one of two ways, by providing more specific instruction on content, or by preparing and circulating a sample report (which could be for a real or fictitious Party).
- b) As the reports update previous reports, it is necessary to review not only current reports but also past reports to ensure a complete picture of implementation of the Convention by the Party in question. However currently the reports are not available in a single place, and the information on any given Party is not integrated in any way. This problem could be tackled at least in part by making all reports (including past reports) available on the CMS website.
- c) Not all information that is needed for effective implementation of the Convention is provided in the reports, nor is it necessarily in the most useful format. For example, the information provided in most reports on conservation measures is necessarily in summary form and is not therefore in a form that could be used by another Party in its own implementation of the Convention – they would need to make contact with those who drafted the report and find an appropriate contact. Information on contacts could have been provided in the first place.
- d) The reports contain useful information that often remains buried. For example, the Swedish National Report for 1997 has two useful paragraphs on the conservation status of *Haliaeetus albicillia*, but there is no obvious mechanism for incorporating this information into any ongoing review of the status of this eagle, nor for communicating the information to others who may be interested – it is their responsibility to find it.
- e) Party reports do not provide a holistic view of implementation, and such a review requires more input than can be achieved from a series of national reports. A holistic review would also

require input from international sources and experts which would place national contributions in context. This suggests that review of national reports should also take account of information from other sources.

It is worth noting that pressure to harmonise information management and reporting for global treaties is resulting in proposals from several quarters that reports should be provided in standard format on the Internet to facilitate location and sharing of information. The Commission for Sustainable Development that organised the UNCED meeting provided standard forms on diskette on which the report was to be completed, the Climate Change Convention has developed a website “report” for a fictitious country – “Solaria”.

CMS needs to consider these approaches. The submission of Party reports in electronic format will help to ensure further standardisation and wider access, and will facilitate the process of integration of information. More long term, the direction appears to be towards *national* websites that incorporate information necessary for reports to international treaties, from which the treaty secretariats can access the information that they require. CMS should consider the role that it could play in fostering this approach.

## 5.2 Standard format species-specific information

Information compiled by Parties when recommending amendment of the Appendices follows the format presented in Table 1.11. For the last two Meetings of the Conferences of the Parties, 149 proposals were made. While these texts vary in length and quality, and while not all of the species were added to the appendices, this is a substantial body of information on the status, distribution and conservation of a particular category of species.

As a result of conference resolutions, there are also 16 Appendix I species that are currently undergoing review as part of the programme of developing “concerted actions”. There is a standard format for these reviews, which is similar to the format for amendment of the appendices (Table 1.12), but the reviews have not been done systematically and have not always been presented in a written format.

There are also individual projects that are resulting in the reviews of status of particular species, for example recent projects on the status of certain species in South America. This information is not being presented in a standard format currently, but there is no particular reason why it should not be.

It seems sensible to ensure that all of this information on individual species collected in the name of the Convention is presented in a single format, and made more widely available. It can then be linked more easily to information from other non-CMS sources. The development of a single standard format is recommended, and it may be sensible to discuss the format with other agencies and programmes working on species.

## 5.3 Agreement Party reports

These currently only exist for ASCOBANS and EUROBATS. The ASCOBANS reports (Table 2.7) are concerned almost exclusively with conservation measures, while the EUROBATS reports (Table 3.7) place greater emphasis on the status of bat species and populations. This reflects the differences in approach thought to be necessary in conserving populations of small cetaceans and bats respectively.

Perhaps because of the more specific nature of the Agreements, the national reports reviewed seem more homogenous and accessible. However most of the points made above about the CMS Party reports also apply. The EUROBATS Party reports are currently available on their website.

All of the information contained in the Agreement Party reports is relevant to CMS implementation, and to attempts by CMS Parties to develop and conclude other Agreements. Consideration needs to be given as to whether Agreement Party reports should be made more widely available to CMS Parties as a matter of course.

Note: Consideration will be given in the next draft of this review to the lessons for CMS Party reports of the Agreement reporting process

#### 5.4 Project reports

The eighth meeting of the CMS Scientific Council approved 28 projects, with total estimated approved budgets of over US\$650,000. There is currently no standard mechanism for sharing the results of these projects so that information and experience can be shared, although the secretariat is about to launch a technical publication series which is expected to be a vehicle for the wider dissemination of material arising from project reports.

If the Convention were to initiate a process of ensuring wider access to information on the status of migratory species, consideration should certainly be given to update of status information on species *in a standard format* as part of all relevant projects. For example, it seems likely that over two-thirds of the projects would involve some sort of review of status of species at some stage.

Also, all projects where valuable lessons are learned should provide case studies for any future mechanism for sharing experience. Examples in the current list would be projects on marine turtle tagging or aerial surveys of marine turtle nesting sites.

To maximise the usefulness of the reports resulting from projects, clear requirements for the production of the report must be specified within the TOR, including the necessity of providing electronic copies of the reports. These might include the request that an executive summary with bullet points be drawn up for providing a widely accessible summary of the findings and recommendations.

## 6 OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES

There is a wide range of organisations used to a greater or lesser extent by the Secretariat and certain Parties in augmenting information that is already available through Party reports and other official reports. The following are *examples* of the type of organisations; the list is not meant to be comprehensive. CMS needs to ensure that, once its information needs are clearly specified, it can develop relationships with these organisations and others like them to make specific information available.

### 6.1 International convention secretariats

There are two global biodiversity-related treaties which compile information that may be of particular relevance to CMS. With the *Convention on Wetlands* there are significant common interests in some key areas concerning migratory waterfowl, flyways, and the status of key sites. With *CITES* there are certain common areas of potential interest concerning the status and distribution of species that are on the appendices of both conventions. These issues are covered further in Section 7 on relationship to other biodiversity-related treaties.

The Scientific Committee of the *International Whaling Commission* discusses issues of direct relevance to CMS, and the documentation for these meetings contains useful information. However the information and the documentation is only currently received when members of the CMS secretariat attend the IWC Scientific Committee meetings. This is an example of an intergovernmental process where CMS should ensure that it automatically receives relevant papers, and is informed of any developments directly relevant to their interests.

### 6.2 Regional conventions and agreements

Note: It has not been possible to complete this section in time for the version of the draft going to the Standing Committee. It is anticipated that the section would refer to the following:

- Bern Convention, EC Directives, Cartagena, SPREP/APIA, HELCOM/ORSPA, CCAMLR, CAFF, as examples of regional agreements
- Protocol to Barcelona Convention as example for a single species
- Ballerina and UNEP SPA/RAC at Tunis as examples of regional information service/centre

### 6.3 International NGOs specialising in particular groups of species

The *BirdLife International* partnership holds a significant amount of information on birds and conservation measures necessary for bird species, and has access to considerably more information through its networks. Examples of types of relevant information product include:

- ☐ *Birds in Europe: Their conservation status*
- ☐ *Important Bird Areas in the Middle East*

BirdLife is in the process of developing its information management capacity, and the new databases will include fields for seasonal population counts at global, regional, sub-regional,

national and site levels, and information about the method and quality of count data (this is all linked to information necessary for assessment of status using the IUCN threat categories and criteria). CMS should discuss with BirdLife the database that they are developing and potential collaborative work which would provide CMS with better information on bird species listed on the Appendices. At the same time, any information compiled for CMS purposes needs to be integrated with the information that BirdLife is collecting and managing.

BirdLife is also currently working on *Birds to Watch 3*, the next edition of their review of the world's threatened bird species. This volume will have for each bird species paragraphs on characteristics, ecology/habitats, threats, range/distribution, and conservation action, and for each species there will be range maps. All CMS Appendix I species will be reviewed, so BirdLife will be in a position to report later this year on the current conservation status of listed bird species. Many Appendix II species will no doubt also be covered. The extent to which the preparation of this information is or could be linked to preparation of reviews for "concerted action" species and proposed amendments should also be jointly reviewed to ensure there is no unnecessary duplication of effort, and to ensure that all relevant information is utilised.

The BirdLife Partnership has some websites (for example in South Africa, Finland and Japan), but these are not currently co-ordinated in any way, and are mainly descriptive in nature. With the development of the information management capacity, and with the increased emphasis on networking and communication, the Internet will be used more strategically by BirdLife in the future. As these developments take place, CMS and BirdLife should identify how the Internet can be used to increase the availability of information on migratory birds.

#### **6.4 International NGOs specialising in particular habitat types**

*Wetlands International* holds or has access to a significant amount of information on waterfowl, wetlands and flyways. They have also long worked on wetlands inventories, and the process of wetlands inventory, and on conservation measures for waterfowl and wetlands. Examples of types of relevant information product include:

- ☐ *Directory of Wetlands in Oceania, Middle East, etc*
- ☐ *African Waterfowl Census Report*
- ☐ *International Shorebird Surveys (Western Hemisphere)*
- ☐ *Asian Waterfowl Census*

Information in these types of product is directly relevant to listed species on both appendices. CMS should discuss with Wetlands International, the information that they are collecting, and their long terms plans for review and maintenance of this information. The aim should be to develop working practices in both organisations that ensure the sharing of relevant categories of information, and in the future the development of joint information services based on this information. See also section 7.5 on the relationship to the Convention on Wetlands).

Wetlands International is also working on a *Global review of wetlands inventories* and other general information on global wetland resources. Not only will this provide an overview of the information available, but will also look at the criteria used in national and international inventories, and provide advice on future inventory processes. CMS may want to review with Wetlands International how the information and the criteria relate to listed species.

Wetlands International has also produced *Bibliography Of Wetland Creation And Restoration Literature*. This type of product may be very relevant to action by CMS to share information on experience in conservation measures, and CMS may want to explore further the availability of

bibliographic information on relevant conservation measures, and whether these bibliographies or catalogues are being maintained.

Wetlands International are also working on a *Flyways Atlas of Anatidae Populations in Africa and Western Eurasia*, which will provide descriptive text on the species covered, and maps of their migration routes. This project has already been discussed within the context of AEWA, and links are being made between the AEWA website and the parts of the atlas that are on the Wetlands International website.

The *Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network* (WHSRN) links wetland and associated upland sites essential to migratory shorebirds in a voluntary, non-regulatory program of research, training, and collaborative effort for habitat management, environmental education, and protection. One of its five goals is to compile, analyse, and disseminate information on shorebird distribution, migration, habitat, and biology in the Western Hemisphere. The relevance of this information to the needs of CMS should be assessed in collaboration with Wetlands International.

### 6.5 International expert networks

The IUCN Species Survival Commission and its various specialist groups provide an extensive network of expertise and access to a substantial range of information. SSC is in the process of designing information systems that will significantly improve their ability to organise the information available in the network. Examples of types of SSC information product include:

- ❑ *IUCN Red List of Threatened Animal Species*
- ❑ *The Cranes: Status survey and conservation action plan*

IUCN and a range of other organisations including BirdLife International, Conservation International and WCMC are currently reviewing the processes by which the *Red List of Threatened Animal Species* is compiled, and at least two meetings have taken place. IUCN has also just appointed a “red list” officer, whose responsibilities include the co-ordination of red listing programmes at national and international levels. CMS should establish a dialogue with this process, probably through the new red list officer to identify how this might relate to CMS needs, and how CMS information and information sources might be useful to the red listing process.

The IUCN Species Survival Commission has been working for some time on development of a *Species Information System* (SIS), and a preliminary version has been evaluated. SIS has seven basic modules, systematics, population, observation, geographic, threat category, conservation action and information sources. If CMS has not already discussed this new database with SSC, then steps should be taken to do so, to identify where there might be opportunities for future collaboration.

Various SSC Specialist Groups have interests of direct relevance to the Convention and/or Agreements. These areas of mutual interest should be clearly identified, so that information and experience can be shared in a systematic manner. It is assumed that to some extent this is already happening in an *ad hoc* manner through interested individuals.

### 6.6 Specialist information management organisations

The World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) specialises in the location and management of information relevant to biodiversity conservation, and in developing and maintaining information services that support others in implementing action relevant to biodiversity conservation. In carrying out this work, WCMC collaborates closely with all of the organisations identified above (see also Section 7).

WCMC regularly supports CMS under contract through the development of specific information products, and is discussing other potential projects. In addition to this current study, this work includes the following:

- ☐ Analysis of marine turtle status and distribution
- ☐ Preparation of country profiles for potential CMS Parties
- ☐ Review of CMS Appendices
- ☐ Review of range state information for listed species

WCMC has developed a prototype *Integrated Species Database* on the Internet, which is a cross-tabulation of information on IUCN Red List species, and the appendices and annexes of CITES, CMS, and the EC Wildlife Trade Regulation, with range state data. It is intended to add the EC Birds and Habitats directives and the Bern Convention later this year. This database is also linked interactively to the information contained in BirdLife International's *Birds to Watch*.

There is obvious potential to either link this information to any database developed for CMS, or to use the data table behind this information service as the basis for a CMS database and information service on the Internet. It would be relatively straightforward, for example, to add links to the CMS species reviews discussed earlier (section 4.4). Note that it is also possible to retrieve information from the database directly, without going through the WCMC data query pages, so a link could be made direct from the CMS website to, for example, a table of information on European bats.

WCMC also has experience in development of tools that assist in the location of information elsewhere on the Internet. For example the *World Heritage Information Network* developed in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre provides focussed search across those web pages that are known to contain information on World Heritage sites. WCMC has also developed a *Protected Areas Virtual Library* in collaboration with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas. This experience is relevant if CMS decides to develop an *Information Network on Migratory Species* on the Internet.

CMS should explore further with WCMC the ways in which WCMC can support the Convention and Agreement Secretariats in their work, and also how WCMC can help increase the support provided to Parties to the Convention and Agreements.

## **6.7 Collaboration between information providers**

The Biodiversity Conservation Information System (BCIS) is not an organisation, but an agreement or partnership among 12 organisations and programmes working with information relevant to biodiversity conservation (including the four organisations listed above). The aim of the partnership is to increase collaboration and reduce duplication of effort in the collection, management and use of information relevant to biodiversity conservation amongst the 12 organisations. BCIS is in the process of developing procedures and protocols to be applied by the organisations concerned, and will in the future turn more attention to the information products and services that such a powerful consortium could be providing.

BCIS will develop in a more focussed manner, and probably more rapidly, when implementing collaborative projects, and several *pilot projects* are in development. It has been suggested that a pilot project on the integration of information on migratory species in support of CMS might prove a valuable pilot project, and this idea will be explored with the BCIS Steering Committee in February 1999.

Within Europe, *Euring* (the European Union for Bird Ringing) ensures co-operation on all aspects of scientific bird ringing, and is therefore important in monitoring migration patterns. As early as

1966 Euring devised a standard coding system for ringing recovery data to encourage the exchange of information between different national ringing centres. This code is now used by all national ringing centres and allows the easy transfer and analysis of data from many different sources. While CMS will not want to replicate anything being done by Euring, it may want to ensure that the lessons learnt by Euring are transferred to other parts of the world, and perhaps also to other species groups.

### 6.8 Project managed by internationally active organisations

The field projects of organisations such as the World Wide Fund for Nature, or the Snow Leopard Trust can provide information of direct relevance to the Convention and its Agreements, but in most cases there are no mechanisms to ensure that that information is received by the Secretariat.

The CMS Secretariat needs to make arrangements with such organisations such that they are informed of any relevant projects and receive copies of appropriate reports. With proper negotiation it should be possible to also arrange for the receipt of information from the projects in the most appropriate format for the Convention's needs (such as a standard species format).

The *Global Register of Migratory Species* (GROMS) aims to summarise state of knowledge on migratory species in a standardised relational database, with fully referenced information on species, vernacular names, migratory behaviour, habitat, threats, protection status, bibliography, addresses of monitoring organisations and experts. Maps of distribution and migratory routes would also be included. This is being prepared by the Museum Koenig in Bonn, in co-operation with the CMS Secretariat.

Note: There are clearly important links between this initiative and future developments of information management within CMS, but these have not yet been assessed.

### 6.9 Common threads

Common to all of these categories of source is the need for the Secretariat to make arrangements with the various programmes and organisations to share information much more widely, and hopefully in a more structured manner. This is in the interests of all of the programmes and organisations.

It is recommended that CMS establish a list of organisations with which it wants to establish direct integrated links, and begin the process of negotiation to identify what synergies there are, and what duplication of effort can be avoided. These discussions will continue after the Standing Committee, so that the process is further forward by the next Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and more specific recommendations can be made.

It is assumed that CMS will also establish a list of organisations which it wants to share information with in a structured manner, so for example, whenever WWF carries out projects on a particular list of species (presumably those on the appendices), they automatically inform the CMS Secretariat, and share information. The CMS Secretariat should also identify what WWF (for example) would want in return.

## 7 RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER BIODIVERSITY-RELATED TREATIES

Building on the work already carried out as part of the *Feasibility study for a harmonised information management infrastructure for biodiversity-related treaties*, this section explores further the ways in which CMS can contribute to streamlining of information management and national reporting. Specifically it will review the opportunities for CMS to contribute to and benefit from the existing and proposed information collection and management activities of other biodiversity-related conventions. This might include, for example, exchange of specific categories of information with CITES, or with Ramsar.

### 7.1 Feasibility study

The five biodiversity-related treaty secretariats and UNEP commissioned WCMC to undertake a *Feasibility Study for a harmonised information management infrastructure for biodiversity-related treaties*. The aim of this study was to identify opportunities for harmonising information management, and responded to the realisation that the secretariats could collaborate more closely to gain synergies, avoid duplication and reduce the burden of reporting carried out by the Parties to the conventions.

The *Feasibility Study* involved the Secretariats of the:

- ☐ Convention on Biological Diversity
- ☐ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
- ☐ Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals
- ☐ Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat
- ☐ Convention Concerning the World Cultural and Natural Heritage

The *Feasibility Study* considered effectiveness and efficiency in the gathering, handling, disseminating and sharing of information, and identified three programmes of work to improve information management. Each of these is discussed further in the three following sections.

- ☐ Development of a harmonised conventions information resource
- ☐ Streamlined national reporting to facilitate reporting and use of information
- ☐ Development of a shared lessons-learned network

Recognising the need for broader synergies, a follow-on study was recommended to involve the other Rio treaties and regional agreements.

### 7.2 Development of a harmonised conventions information resource

Since the feasibility study was completed, information managers from the five biodiversity-related treaties have met to discuss implementation of issues raised in the study report. Emphasis is being given in the first instance to steps that can be taken relatively easily by the secretariats concerned to facilitate wider access to information resources that each already has available.

### **7.2.1 Harmonisation of convention web site content**

In order to facilitate use of convention web sites, it was recommended in the feasibility study report that each site provides a consistent minimum set of features. This is not intended to restrict the creativity or freedom of individual secretariats, but to improve location of information. Convention information managers agreed that the list of “Recommended minimum web site features” provided in the report and the table derived from it by the CMS Secretariat which analysed current web site content, should be revised and used as the basis for future development of convention web sites. While this has few implications for the present report, the list of minimum web site features includes:

- ☐ Decisions in force
- ☐ Status of Parties
- ☐ Reporting requirements
- ☐ List or index of available documents

and future targets include:

- ☐ List or index of available documents
- ☐ All national reports and updates
- ☐ All official lists or records

Note that this deals with increasing access to information that already exists in the format in which it already exists, and not a significant change in what is currently being done.

### **7.2.2 Metadatabase**

The report recommends that a metadatabase be developed to indicate what information convention secretariats hold and where it is located. The metadatabase would be implemented on the web, following standard protocols and software, and would essentially consist of digital versions of the “cover sheets” of all convention documentation available in a searchable form, with additional information on availability of the full document.

The purpose of the “cover sheet” is to provide standard information for all documents submitted by contracting Parties and generated by the secretariats across all five conventions. The recommended minimum content for the cover sheet is similar to that currently used by some of the conventions. Consistency in the use of terms is essential to effective cross-convention searching (see below).

This activity will require additional work by the CMS Secretariat on entering information on available documents into the metadatabase when it is developed. However the metadatabase will facilitate access to information held by other convention secretariats.

### **7.2.3 Development of a common Web page**

The development of an inter-convention web site and search engine was foreseen by the feasibility study report as a logical follow-on to harmonised web sites and metadatabases in each of the secretariats. The inter-convention web site would be a single point of entry – in the sense of a gateway, rather than data entry – to the convention web sites. A search engine would enable users to interrogate and retrieve information from the metadatabase covering the five conventions.

The Convention information managers see a web-based, common entry point for the five biodiversity-related conventions as a positive development for the future, and a first version has already been developed by the CBD Secretariat based on the list of recommended minimum web site features (see section 7.2.1).

Again, note that this deals with increasing access to information that already exists in the format in which it already exists, and does not imply a significant change in what is currently being done.

#### **7.2.4 Development of a common thesaurus**

The feasibility study recommends adoption of a standard multilingual thesaurus so that searching for keywords can be accomplished across the five conventions. The information managers agreed that this is a useful exercise and are proceeding with development of a list that will be used in organising and indexing information, particularly on the convention web sites and in the metadatabase.

### **7.3 Streamlined national reporting to facilitate reporting and use of information**

Streamlining of national reporting to biodiversity-related conventions is necessary both to reduce potential duplication of effort, and to increase potential synergies. It is recognised that the requirement for Parties to report to many different international instruments and programmes can be burdensome, and that there is a need to streamline and rationalise this process. There are four activities that the feasibility study identifies as being necessary:

- ☐ Review and clarify reporting requirements of each convention
- ☐ Prepare an integrated handbook of reporting requirements
- ☐ Pilot test the handbook
- ☐ Build capacity in national biodiversity information management

Initially the most crucial stage is reviewing and clarifying the reporting requirements of each convention, and then comparing the requirements for one convention with another and seeing how the needs relate (and where the gaps are). CMS therefore needs to be reviewing the reports it is currently getting through both the Convention itself and the Agreements, and ensuring that these reports adequately cover information needs and are appropriately integrated, so that it can join the cross-convention review with its needs already assessed. This is covered to a large extent in the current report (section 4.7). Also relevant here is the importance of access to the information contained in national reports, and recommendations on this are also made in this report.

### **7.4 Development of a shared lessons-learned network**

Each convention is learning lessons about implementation of conservation on the ground that could usefully be shared. The objective of this recommendation of the feasibility study is to encourage the sharing of experience from case studies, whether positive success stories or examples of what to avoid. It could, for instance, include examples spanning field projects in species re-introduction, experience on invasive species, habitat rehabilitation through to policies and guidelines for sustainable use. Their main activities are likely to be:

- ☐ Select lessons-learned from existing secretariat documents
- ☐ Develop prototype lessons-learned web site
- ☐ Establish links to lessons-learned of other agencies
- ☐ Link lessons learned network to CBD Clearing House Mechanism

Again the crucial stage for CMS is the first, the compilation of case studies - preferably in a standard format (unfortunately not yet defined). This is particularly important for CMS and its associated agreements, given the number of instances that mechanisms to share information have come up as an important type of information management activity (see Section 3). This is not to say that lessons learnt for bats are relevant to dolphins, but that the information on lessons learnt could be managed using the same or similar tools.

### 7.5 Example: Relationship to the Convention on Wetlands

Many migratory species use wetlands, and it is therefore inevitable that a convention adopted for the conservation of wetlands covers sites that are of crucial importance for the conservation of migratory species.

Based on a review of the papers made available to participants at the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Brisbane, Australia, 1996), the following information appears to be directly relevant to the implementation of the CMS:

- ☐ Descriptions of sites important for migratory species, amongst others, following a standard format, including more thorough assessment of threatened sites (Montreux Record), and Resolutions VI.1 and VI.13 on continuation of the development of this information.
- ☐ Report by Wetlands International summarising revised population estimates for birds (relevant for identifying importance of wetlands using Ramsar criterion 3c) and Resolution VI.4 on further development and use of the data.
- ☐ National reports on implementation of the Convention, prepared to a standard format, which identify relevant research, experience and information sources.

Of more interest, but less obvious from the COP papers reviewed, is the compilation of information on experience in wetlands management which may be directly relevant to management of habitats for migratory species.

### 7.6 Example: Relationship to CITES

By the nature of the two conventions, each of which was adopted to protect species that are threatened, there are inevitably a number of species listed on the appendices of both.

Based on a review of the papers made available to participants at the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to CITES (Fort Lauderdale, USA, 1994), the following information appears to be directly relevant to the implementation of the CMS:

- ☐ The Animals and Nomenclature Committees are charged with developing and maintaining standardised lists of animal names, and identifying standard references for adoption by the Conference of Parties.
- ☐ The Animals Committee is charged with reviewing and assessing all biological and trade information on Appendix II species.
- ☐ Studies on significant trade in Appendix II species carried out by expert organisations on behalf of the CITES Secretariat.
- ☐ Proposals for transfer for amendment of Appendices I and II, prepared to a standard format defined by Resolution 9.24 (Annex 6).

In particular the last-mentioned item includes compilation of information on status, distribution and knowledge of particular species, and equates with the information provided by CMS Parties in proposals for amendment of appendices (see Table 1.9). The formats of the proposals are compared in Table 7.1, and the close parallels between the two are obvious (and presumably intended).

## 8 USERS AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

This section aims to identify who requires what information, and how it will be delivered to them. Based on the review of information needs, we identify what mechanisms are currently used, and what mechanisms will be used in the future to ensure that information reaches those who need it, in the form in which it is required. This will include review of the current web sites.

### 8.1 User groups

The key user groups can be identified as the following:

#### 8.1.1 *Secretariat*

The Secretariat requires information for a wide range of purposes (largely identified in Table 1.8), and to service all of the users identified in the following sections. Priority has to be given necessarily to the information needs of the Parties, the Scientific Council, the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties.

In the past the primary source of information has been the Parties themselves, and to a more limited extent a few expert organisations. The Secretariat has recognised the need to be more organised in accessing and using information, and to make more long term arrangements for collaborating with a range of expert organisations to supplement the information compiled from Parties.

The current report is a further step in the process of reviewing and revising the compilation, management and use of information by the Secretariat.

#### 8.1.2 *Scientific Council*

Table 1.7 attempts to identify the types of information that would be required by the Scientific Council members, given the various mandates identified. In deriving this list the assumption was made that it is the role of the Secretariat to support the Scientific Council in taking decisions or making recommendations by providing supporting information. In fact this is probably rather a simplification, and in reality the members of the Scientific Council often make recommendations based on their own experience.

However, it is true to say that the more information available to the Scientific Council, the more robust will be the recommendations that are made. So, for example:

- a) If a catalogue of ongoing research into migratory species was to be developed based on compilation of information from Parties and other organisations, the Scientific Council would be better able to make recommendations on research and the co-ordination of research, as mandated by Article VIII.
- b) Information on the conservation status of listed species is required in order to provide lists of species requiring special attention (Resolution 5.2), so mechanisms to better organise and access information on listed species would be invaluable.

Any information provided to the Scientific Council to support their work is usually provided as documents sent in the post to identified individuals, information on whom is stored in a contacts database maintained by the Secretariat. Electronic copies of the documents have not in the past been made available.

### ***8.1.3 Standing Committee and Conference of the Parties***

The Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties essentially require the same information, in order to review implementation of the Convention on a periodic basis, and to take decisions about future implementation of the Convention.

This information is in most cases prepared by the Secretariat, by the Scientific Council or by Parties, or by other bodies reporting to the Conference such as the Agreement Secretariats. The exception is information papers prepared by expert bodies such as Wetlands International.

In all cases the information is made available as printed documents sent in the post to identified representatives or contact points, information on whom is stored in a contacts database maintained by the Secretariat. Electronic copies of the documents have not in the past been made available.

For the next Conference of the Parties, it is planned that the papers will for the first time be made available in advance on the CMS website, as is already happening for the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on Wetlands. The World Heritage Convention also makes papers available on the Internet in advance, but these are not publicly available and a password is required.

### ***8.1.4 Parties***

The Parties to the Convention need information both from within their own territories, and from the Secretariat in order to effectively implement the Convention. The current report does not deal with former need except to list the types of information needed (Table 1.9).

In summary, Parties need information which allows them to prioritise action (for example conservation status of species and populations), information on the experience of others (for example the identification of conservation measures required for listed species), knowledge of the action of other Range States, and so on.

In practice this information has reached Parties in the past through national reports, and through conference and information papers, all of which are sent by mail once every three years. Other information may be referred to in the CMS newsletter, but information is not made available systematically between conferences.

With the increasing use of the Internet, there are opportunities for this to change drastically, and this and other proposals made in this report would increase the ability of Parties to access information. The corollary of this is that Parties would also be expected to provide information to others on a more systematic basis.

### ***8.1.5 Scientists and other researchers***

In practice CMS has not seen scientists and specialist organisations as users of information, but as providers of input to reviews and assessments. This is fair enough, but does not recognise the potential for vast increase in available information if CMS were to develop its role (directly or indirectly) as a focal point for information services on migratory species. If

CMS proactively fosters increased access to information on migratory species in a strategic manner, many scientists and others working on migratory species will then use such a mechanism to also share the information that they have, creating an increasing pool of information for CMS.

#### **8.1.6 Others**

A range of other users access general information on migratory species either from promotional literature or the CMS website. Such users might include educators, students, and other members of the “general public”. While this report is not specifically concerned with such users, it would be sensible to bear their potential needs in mind as any new dissemination mechanisms are developed. For example, if the information on the web site is developed significantly, then educational aspects of the information might be considered.

### **8.2 Dissemination mechanisms**

The key dissemination mechanisms can be identified as follows:

#### **8.2.1 Conference documents and information papers**

Information content of these documents varies very widely, and while some documents are focussed on narrow issues and have no life beyond the meeting they were prepared for, others contain valuable information that should receive far wider circulation. This has been discussed elsewhere in this report.

Conference papers are not currently available on the Internet, with the exception of some of the conference reports and the resolutions and recommendations. However there is an intention to make all of the conference documents for the 1999 meeting available on the CMS website.

Providing conference papers on the website will increase access to the information contained within them, but consideration will need to be given to how this information is organised so that users can easily access the information that they need even if they are not familiar with the language and protocol on international meetings, and the associated numbering of papers.

Consideration needs to be given on a regular basis to the information content of conference documents and other information papers, and whether they should receive a wider circulation in some format (such as in the new technical publication series).

#### **8.2.2 Other literature**

While a range of project and other reports are generated as part of the implementation of the Convention, these are not generally made widely available and the information that they contain is limited in its use as a result. The Secretariat intends to develop a new technical publications series which will increase access to much of this information, and should also consider placing the reports on the CMS website.

#### **8.2.3 Internet**

At present the CMS website includes a lot of information about the Convention itself, and the Agreements, but provides relatively little information about migratory species (apart from which ones are listed).

Note: This section needs completion following a thorough review of the current CMS websites, and how these relate to other existing websites (and proposed websites) on migratory species.

## 9 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT NEEDS AND CAPABILITIES

The intention of this section is to address the issue of the information management techniques necessary for managing and disseminating the information required. In particular it should review the existing information management infrastructure within the CMS and agreement secretariats, and assess the capacity for its future development.

### 9.1 Development of integrated databases

In fact initial discussions with representatives of the secretariats suggests that their current information management capacities are relatively limited in terms of both hardware and software, and in terms of capacity and experience. This will be explored more thoroughly following the advice of the Steering Committee. All of the Secretariats have the means to manage relatively simple databases and to handle documents. However, none has the resources necessary themselves to build and manage large integrated databases.

- ❑ Following agreement on priorities and the availability of resources, there is a need to review the more detailed information needs of CMS and the relationship between these specific needs and the more general reporting needs of other Secretariats to allow the development of a specification. Work already done in this study and as part of the harmonisation process will provide a broad framework for this, but will need to be carried out in greater detail. CMS will need access to experience in developing user specifications.
- ❑ The user specification needs to be converted into a technical specification, including the structure and relationship (including a so-called entity relationship diagram) of the resulting databases. The output would be a specification to allow the development and implementation of the database and associated screens and reports. CMS will need access to experience in the design and specifications of databases and be able oversee the technical implementation of the database.
- ❑ It is likely that in developing the database, information from a range of different sources will be required. Once it knows what information it required, CMS will need to negotiate with the organisations concerned to ensure that it has access to the information. This may include arrangements for the sharing of information, and may require modification of the user and technical specifications.
- ❑ To implementation of the database, CMS will need access to experience of the appropriate technology and development methodologies to deliver the database.

### 9.2 Development of web-based information services

The current CMS-related web sites are generally on the servers of other organisations, although staff of the secretariats have enough familiarity with simple *html* to prepare web pages and *PDF*

documents. However this experience does not extend to the development of web-based metadatabases and distributed databases that would be the most efficient mechanisms for sharing much of the information discussed in previous sections.

- ❑ There are an increasing number of metadatabase tools available for use over the Internet that are “packaged” in a form that could be used by CMS. These include, for example, GELOS and the tools being developed by Blue Angel Technologies – both based on the appropriate international standards. CMS will need access to experience of this technology if it is to implement web-accessible metadatabases.
- ❑ Various existing websites demonstrate the experience that is being developed in making information from databases in a range of locations available over the Internet. For example the *Species 2000* website can be used to search dynamically across the species databases held on a number of other websites. The CGIAR *System-wide Information Network for Genetic Resources* (SINGER) has a database on its website which periodically “collects” information from other database on the web. Again, CMS will need access to this experience if it is to implement distributed databases on the Internet.

### 9.3 Review of databases and services provided by Parties

Within the current review we can assess the potential for collaboration with databases and information services of international organisations and programmes, but cannot assess the potential contribution from the national level. Only the ASCOBANS Secretariat has carried out a systematic review of databases managed by Parties, and this only for post-mortem results. It would seem a valuable next step for all the secretariats to assess what relevant databases and websites are currently managed by Parties, so that a rational assessment can be made of what already exists and what can be built upon.

### 9.4 Implementation

The paragraphs above identify some of the key experience required for implementation of much of what is described in this report. It is not essential for this experience to in-house, and CMS may prefer to contact out certain tasks, or to work in partnership with other organisations which already have this experience.

## 10 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Based on the activities already described, and on the feedback received from the secretariats and others on previous drafts of the report, the plan of action set out on the following pages is proposed. At present this *Information Management Plan* has not itself been reviewed in this format by either the Secretariat or any member of the Scientific Council or Standing Committee. It is presented as a draft for critical review and comment, and may change substantially before the Conference of the Parties based on the feedback received.

One of the difficulties in deriving a plan of action is that in many cases there are several options of how to carry given actions out, and that a decision on which course of action to take depends on priorities, resources available and the relative interests of the different secretariats and other organisations.

Note that with many of the actions proposed, they do not necessarily need to be carried out by the Secretariats, but could be performed on their behalf by Parties or appropriately qualified organisations.

Finally, while WCMC as information managers can make recommendations, it is up to the Secretariats and the Parties to identify what is useful in their own particular circumstances.

Note: A number of the actions included in the following table will be carried out at least in part over the months following the Standing Committee, and before the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This will allow more specific recommendations to be made later in the year.

Note: It may be clearer if the recommended actions that follow are placed in the text of the document as well in the next version of this report, linking the discussion more clearly to the proposed outcome. The views of the Secretariat and Standing Committee on this suggestion would be welcomed.



## Draft CMS Information Management Plan

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Review information needs and initiate actions to ensure improved future access to information.	1) Complete the drafting of the CMS Information Management Plan, following advice from the Standing Committee and further consultation with the Convention and Agreement Secretariats.	High	Ongoing				
	2) Continue the identification of “partner organisations” in the collection, management and use of information relevant to migratory species.	High	Ongoing				
	3) Review with these organisations in a structured way the potential for future collaboration in compiling and sharing information on migratory species.	High					
	4) Work with the BCIS consortium to develop a pilot project on migratory species that will focus the information resources of the members on the information needs of the Convention and its Agreements.	Medium					
	5) Continue the dialogue with information managers of the other global biodiversity-related treaties on streamlining information management and reporting.	High	Ongoing				
	6) Develop a complete list of other organisations who collect manage and use information that is also relevant to implementation of CMS and its Agreements.	Medium	Ongoing				
	7) Liaise with other organisations working on or affecting migratory species, to ensure the automatic exchange of relevant information.	Medium					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Develop information management tools to support the activities of the Convention and Agreement Secretariats	8) Develop a full user-specification and then a technical specification for the database modules described below (taking account of the collaboration with partner organisations described above).	High					
	9) Develop a single database of Parties for the Convention and all Agreements, incorporating all of the information necessary on means and dates of accession, reservations, adoption of amendments, etc	High					
	10) Develop a single contacts database for the Convention and all Agreements, linked to the database of Parties, and incorporating all appropriate "flags"	High					
	11) Create a database of listed species, and use the revised Range State data to link this to the database on Parties to the Convention and Agreements	High					
	12) Develop a projects database for the Convention and Agreements to help in monitoring the contribution being made by the Convention to ongoing work on migratory species, and as a project management tool.	Low					
	13) Consider development of a bibliographic database on migratory species, working in collaboration with Parties, partners, and possibly with commercial abstracting services and bibliographies?	Low					
	14) Develop a metadatabase of information sources on migratory species, potentially linked to the database on listed species and on Parties and other Range States.	Medium					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Increase access to information on migratory species already being collected by secretariats and parties	15) Request the submission of Party reports in electronic format to facilitate making them more widely available using the Internet, and, if necessary develop revised guidelines and/or pro-formae.	High					
	16) Request the submission of other official documents in electronic format, including project reports, proposed amendments to the appendices, and reports on “concerted action” species.	High					
	17) Develop a programme for sharing information between the Convention and Agreement Secretariats.	High					
	18) Develop a library on migratory species that covers the Convention and all Agreements, and negotiate with appropriate organisations and individuals to receive copies of all relevant reports and publications.	Low					
	19) Develop an information service to Parties (and potentially to others) based on the library, including considering making information from the library accessible through the WWW or on CD-ROM.	Low					
	20) Develop a clearing house role for sharing of information on migratory species, so that information is systematically collected (possibly with the assistance of the focal points identified above) and then passed on to those know to need it.	Medium					
	21) Ensure that information on the status of listed species is more readily available to support decisions, for example the reviews of “concerted action” species should be available in written format in advance of meetings.	High					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Increase use of the WWW in delivering information services	22) Develop a strategy for delivering information on migratory species and actions over the Internet, which includes the following.	High					
	23) Place all Party reports on the Internet linked to the Party list, and consider integrating the Party reports from different years in a meaningful manner	High					
	24) Place all project reports on the Internet, linked as appropriate to species and Party lists.	High					
	25) Place the proposed database on listed species, Parties and Range states on the Internet with suitable search/query facilities, and consider also making the bibliographic database also available.	Medium					
	26) Link to the species lists in the database information that has been compiled in standard formats on listed species, including "concerted action" reports and proposals for amendment.	Medium					
	27) Develop a prototype information service on a group of species (possibly Albatrosses) in collaboration with partner organisations, to demonstrate the potential for co-ordinated web-based information services to support the Convention and Agreements.	High	Planned				
	28) Make appropriate links to other Internet information sources, and where possible make integrated meaningful links rather than just provide a list of "interesting links".	High					
	29) Create a WWW partnership on migratory species which will proactively seek to increase the information available on the Internet on migratory species, and to increase collaboration between those providing such information.	Medium					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Ensure consistency and best practice in the compilation of information	30) Identify areas where the Convention and Agreements should be fostering the sharing of information between Contracting Parties, and review the mechanisms currently used to facilitate sharing of information.	High	Ongoing				
	31) Ensure that adequate guidelines and standard formats are being provided where information is being compiled from Parties and Range States, including the level of detail required within Party reports.	High	Ongoing				
	32) Develop a process for more regular review and update of information on listed species, using both Parties and other Range States, and other experts.	High					
	33) Ensure use of standard formats in reporting on species (e.g. Concerted Actions), and ensure that projects review information and report in useful formats (to be defined in project TOR).	High					
	34) Identify areas where the development of web-accessible databases or other Internet tools will facilitate the sharing of information.	High	Ongoing				
	35) Use the WWW partnership described above as a vehicle for sharing of information bilaterally and multilaterally in the context of both implementation of the Convention and Agreements	Medium					
	36) Identify and use appropriate standards in collecting and managing information, including, for example, common taxonomic standards with other international programmes and organisations.	Medium					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Improve the Convention's regular review mechanisms	37) Review the contents of Party reports, to ensure that they adequately cover all of the issues.	High	Ongoing				
	38) Review Party reports together with information from other sources, both to assess the extent to which Party reports are able to present a full picture of conservation of migratory species, and to develop overviews of the implementation of the convention.	High	Planned				
	39) Based on this full review, make recommendations on the future format and content of national reports.	High	Planned				
	40) Set in place mechanisms for regular review of the appendices based on available information on migratory species and the threats to them.	Medium					
	41) Review information on range states, and harmonise it with information from other sources including the Range State information compiled for other international agreements such as CITES.	High	Planned				
	42) Develop a standard format for Agreement reports to the CMS Conference of Parties, so as to ensure more homogenous reporting on the conservation of Appendix II species.	High					
	43) Define processes for greater integration in the Party reporting procedures of the Convention and Agreements, to ensure that all of the information available is effectively used in reporting on the status of migratory species and the actions being taken for their conservation.	High					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Develop mechanisms for sharing experience, in particular between Parties and other range States	44) Work with Agreement Secretariats, and the secretariats of other biodiversity-related treaties, to develop a programme for compiling and increasing access to information on “case studies” and “best practice”.	High					
	45) Carry out a pilot project on a priority area for the sharing of experience (such as the modification of fishing tackle and techniques to reduce by-catch of small cetaceans).	High					
	46) Establish list servers or web fora for discussion and exchange of information on key areas of interest to implementation of the Convention and/or Agreements.	High					
	47) Develop a web-based list of meetings on migratory species, which can be added to and updated by Parties and appropriate organisations and individuals directly.	Medium					
	48) Compile a register of ongoing research on migratory species, to ensure greater co-ordination of research on migratory species	Medium					

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Priority</i>	<i>Current capacity</i>	<i>Resource needs</i>	<i>Degree of difficulty</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>Partners</i>
Increase collaboration with other convention secretariats, in the interests of harmonization of information management and reporting	49) Implement those actions listed above that already contribute to the harmonization of information management and reporting.	High					
	50) Review the CMS Party reporting processes to assess the extent to which national reporting to CMS could be done using national web sites, and what would be required to achieve this.	Medium					
	51) Contribute to the proposed review of reporting requirements, helping to identify those requirements that are specific to CMS and would constitute a CMS module of more integrated reporting.	High	Ongoing				
	52) Contribute to the development of a metadatabase on CMS reports and papers (possibly a component of other databases discussed above).	Medium	Planned				





## ***Table 1 - Assessment of information requirements***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 1.1	Convention text
Table 1.2	Conference resolutions
Table 1.3	Strategy for the future development of the Convention
Table 1.4	Draft Strategy for the future development of the Convention
Table 1.5	Conference recommendations
Table 1.6	Roles of the Standing Committee
Table 1.7	Roles of the Scientific Council
Table 1.8	Analysis of Secretariat information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessments
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Information management activities
Table 1.9	Analysis of Party information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessments
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Reporting
	(e) Specific taxa issues
Table 1.10	Format for Party reports
Table 1.11	Format for proposals for amendment of the Appendices
Table 1.12	Format for reviews of species as part of concerted actions

**Table 1.1 - Convention Text**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Articles I-II	<i>Interpretation of terms used and definition of fundamental principles</i>	None	None
Article III	<i>Endangered Migratory Species: Appendix I.</i> Definition of Appendix I species and criteria for inclusion and removal	List of Appendix I species for which the Party is a Range State	List of species on Appendix I
	Responsibilities of Range States with respect to listed species	Conservation status and distribution of listed species within the territory	Conservation status and distribution of listed species
		Biological and geographical requirements of listed species within the territory	Migratory behaviour of listed species
		Characterisation of threats to listed species within the territory	Systematic review of Appendix I listed species
		Conservation action being taken with respect to listed species	
		Results of conservation action within the territory	
		Monitoring the taking of animals belonging to listed species within the territory and by flag vessels	
Article IV	<i>Migratory Species: Appendix II.</i> Definition of Appendix II species and criteria for their inclusion	List of Appendix II species for which the Party is a Range State	List of species on Appendix II
	Responsibilities of Range States with respect to listed species	Conservation status and distribution of listed species within the territory	Conservation status of listed species

Article	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated	Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated
Article V	Definition of <i>Guidelines for Agreements</i> for collaboration by Range States in restoring specified migratory species to a favourable conservation status	Biological and geographical requirements of listed species within the territory	Migratory behaviour of listed species
		Characterisation of threats to listed species within the territory	Systematic review of Appendix II listed species
		Conservation action being taken with respect to listed species	
		Results of conservation action	
Article VI	Identification and responsibilities of <i>Range States</i> for listed species	Potential benefits from international coordinated action	
		See Table 5.1	See Table 5.1
		List of Appendix I and II species for which the Party is a Range State	List of up-to-date Range States for species in each Appendix
		Information on any “take” of listed species by flag vessels outside national jurisdictional limits	Conservation measures being taken by Range States
Article VII	Establishment of responsibilities of <i>the Conference of the Parties</i>	Conservation measures taken both within the territory, and affecting listed species outside national jurisdictional limits	
		Information on conservation status of species within the country	Information for assessing the conservation status of migratory species

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Article VIII	Establishment and responsibilities of <i>the Scientific Council</i>	<p>Information on progress made towards conservation of migratory species within the country</p> <p>No information is “required” by Parties as the Scientific Council members are appointed as “qualified experts”</p>	<p>Information for reviewing progress made towards conservation of migratory species, especially those listed in the Appendices</p> <p>Information on which to base scientific advice relevant to implementation of the Convention</p> <p>Information on which to base recommendations on research and its co-ordination</p> <p>Information to support recommendations on inclusion of species in the Appendices</p> <p>Information to support recommendations on conservation and management measures to be included in Agreements</p>
Article IX	Establishment and functions of <i>the Secretariat</i>	<p>None, although much of the information required by the Secretariat is compiled from Parties</p>	<p>Any information which will further the objectives and implementation of the Convention</p> <p>Information to support preparation of reports on the implementation of the Convention</p> <p>List of range states for species listed in each Appendix</p> <p>Information which promotes the development and conclusion of Agreements</p> <p>List of agreements</p>

Article	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated	Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated
			List of decisions of the Conference of the Parties
			Contact details
Article X	Mechanisms for <i>Amendment of the Convention</i>	None, apart from knowing what procedures to follow	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates
Article XI	Mechanisms for <i>Amendment of the Appendices</i>	None, apart from knowing what procedures to follow	Information on the conservation status of species proposed for adding to or removing from the appendices
Article XII-XIII	Noting that the provisions of the Convention have no prejudicial Effect on <i>International Conventions and Other Legislation</i> , and concerning the <i>Settlement of disputes</i>	None	None
Articles XIV-XX	Mechanisms and procedures for <i>Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval, Accession, Reservation, Entry into Force, and Denunciation</i> , and identification of the role of the <i>Depositary</i>	None, apart from knowing what procedures to follow, and having access to certified copies of the Convention text	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Convention, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage

Table I.1

Table 1.2 - Conference Resolutions

Resolution	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated	Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated
Resolution 5.1, 4.2, 3.2	Proposes concerted actions for specified Appendix I species	Information on conservation status and action with respect to the identified species	Information on concerted action required and review reports for identified species
Resolution 5.2, 4.3	Parties are urged to provide information needed for review reports	See Table 1.12	See Table 1.12
	Concerns the process of producing and agreeing guidelines for harmonisation of future agreements	See Table 5.2	See Table 5.2
Resolution 5.3, 3.1, 2.2	Guidelines for the application of certain terms of the Convention	None	None
Resolution 5.4, 4.4	Sets out a strategy for the future development of the Convention, identifies priorities, and the responsibilities of Parties, Secretariat and Standing Committee in implementing and reporting on the strategy	See Table 1.3	See Table 1.3
Resolution 5.5	Co-location of certain Agreement secretariats with the Convention Secretariat	None	None
Resolutions 5.6, 5.7, 4.6, 3.6, 2.4, 1.2	Financial and administrative matters	None	None
Resolution 5.8, 4.7, 3.8, 2.1	Date, venue and funding of the next Conference of the Parties	None	None
Resolution 4.1	Concerns the preparation, submission and use of Party reports	Information to prepare Party report following agreed format	Register of which Parties have provided reports and when

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
			Synthesis and management of information provided in Party reports
	Provides an agreed format for Party reports	See Table 1.10	See Table 1.10
Resolution 4.5, 3.4, 114.	Concerns meetings of the Scientific Council, and directs them to undertake certain tasks.	See Table 1.7	See Table 1.7
Resolution 3.1, 2.2	Guidelines for the application of certain terms of the Convention	None	None
Resolution 3.3, 2.3, 1.7	Refers specifically to small cetaceans	See section on ASCOBANS	See section on ASCOBANS
Resolution 3.5, 2.6, 1.6	Concerns the development and implementation of Agreements	None	None
Resolution 3.7, 2.5, 1.1	Concerns the membership, role and function of the Standing Committee	None	None
Resolution 2.7	Administration of Agreements	None	None
Resolution 1.3	Location of the Secretariat	None	None
Resolution 1.5	Format for inclusion of individual species in Appendices I or II	See Table 1.11	See Table 1.11
Resolution 1.8	Expression of thanks to the host country	None	None

Table 1.2

**Table 1.3 - Strategy for the future development of the Convention**

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Objective 1	Enhance membership in CMS through targeted promotion of the Conventions aims	Prioritized list of potential Parties from Secretariat	Country profiles of non-Party states identifying relevant migratory species, and implications of becoming a Party
Objective 2	Intensify conservation initiatives in regions under-represented in CMS	What initiatives are planned or under way	Prioritized list of potential Parties  Convention Directory  Regional bodies carrying out related conservation initiatives  Assessment of priority species/taxa
Objective 3	Facilitate and improve implementation of the Convention	Identification of priority species/taxa by the Secretariat  Assessment of conservation priorities for migratory species (new Parties)  Information from which to develop reports of implementation of CMS  Review of activities already underway in country	Conservation priorities within new Party states  Analysis of reports submitted by Parties  Review and evaluation of reports submitted by Parties, based on the full range of available information
Objective 4	Harmonisation of reporting  Develop agreements according to regional priorities	None  Information from the Secretariat on which to base regional priorities	Developed recommendations  Assessment of priority species/taxa for regions
Objective 5	Prioritise conservation actions for migratory species	Information required for development of adequate protected areas networks for critically endangered species	Assessment of conservation status of species listed in the Appendices

<i>Objective</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
		Action being taken by other Range states	Co-ordination of information on action being taken?
Objective 6	Mobilise financial resources for conservation initiatives	What donor agencies are active in the region, and criteria for provision of resources	Information on relevant actions of multilateral agencies providing development assistance
Objective 7	Rationalise institutional arrangements	None, although a clear idea of the implications of options (financial and otherwise) is necessary	None, although the implication is that information management should also be rationalised
Objective 8	Strengthen institutional linkages	Coordination in country of information available to those representing the country at meetings of all relevant international treaties	Increased sharing of information with biodiversity-related treaties and the GEF

Table 1.3

**Table 1.4 – Draft Strategy for the future development of the Convention**

Objective	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated	Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated
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[TO BE DEVELOPED BASED ON A DRAFT DOCUMENT TO BE PROVIDED BY DOUG]

Table 1.5 - Conference Recommendations

Recommendation	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated	Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated
Recommendation 5.1	Endorsement of action plans for selected Appendix I and II bird species	Awareness of which species they are Range States for, and what action is required	Information on Range States for listed species (both Party and non-Party)
Recommendation 5.2	Recommends co-operative actions for Appendix II species	Awareness of which species they are Range States for, and what action is required	Current conservation status of listed species, and what conservation measures are required
	Instructs Scientific Council to provide lists of species requiring special attention for the Conference of the Parties	See Table 1.7	See Table 1.7
Recommendation 5.3	Development of an action plan for the Great Cormorant in the African-Eurasian region	Support completion of the action plan, taking account of available information	None
Recommendation 5.4	Progress on the Agreement on the conservation and management of the Houbara Bustard	Monitor Houbara Bustard populations in breeding, staging and wintering areas	None
Recommendation 5.5	Requests the Scientific Council to review climate change issues and their implications for the Convention	See Table 1.7	See Table 1.7
Recommendation 5.6	Creation of a working group for the conservation of migratory species in Latin America and the Caribbean	None	None
Recommendation 4.1	Conservation and management of cormorants in the African-Eurasian region	Assess and monitor cormorant populations	None
		Research the impact of cormorants on fisheries	None
		Exchange information on action taken	None

Table 1.5

<i>Recommendation</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Recommendation 4.2	Research on migration in small cetaceans	Describe the migrations of small cetaceans in national waters	None
Recommendation 4.3	Conservation status of <i>Crex crex</i>	Exchange information and technical expertise	None
		Identify breeding habitats	None
		Knowledge of appropriate agricultural management practices	None
Recommendation 4.4	Proposed Agreement on the conservation and management of the Houbara Bustard	Monitor Houbara Bustard populations in breeding, staging and wintering areas	None
Recommendation 4.5	Preparation of an action plan for concerted action for specified Appendix I species	None	None
Recommendation 4.6	Role of NGOs in the Convention	List of appropriate NGOs	List of appropriate NGOs

***Table 1.6 - Roles of the Standing Committee***

Mandate	Summary	Information required
[TO BE DEVELOPED BASED ON THE MANDATE PROVIDED BY THE COP]		

Table 1.6

**Table 1.7 - Roles of the Scientific Council**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required</i>
Article VIII	<p>Provide scientific advice to underpin the implementation of the Convention</p> <p>Recommend research and co-ordination of research, and evaluate the results of such research in order to ascertain the conservation status of migratory species and possible measures for its improvement</p> <p>Make recommendations on species to be included in the Appendices</p> <p>Make recommendations on specific conservation and management measures to be included in Agreements on migratory species</p> <p>Make recommendations on solutions to problems relating to scientific aspects of the implementation of the Convention, in particular with regard to habitats of migratory species</p>	<p>Depends on the scientific advice required - see following paragraphs</p> <p>Assessment of ongoing research and gaps in research for both listed species and candidate species</p> <p>Assessment of conservation status of migratory species, and systematic review of appendices</p> <p>Information on relevant conservation and management measures</p> <p>Depends on the problem requiring solution</p>
Recommendation 5.2	Instructs Scientific Council to provide lists of species requiring special attention for the Conference of the Parties	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species
Recommendation 5.5	<p>Review scientific work on climate change being done under the auspices of other international bodies, and assess the relevance of the work for migratory species</p> <p>Review existing links between CMS and other bodies undertaking work in this area</p> <p>Formulate proposals for improving and strengthening such links, to ensure that CMS has access to the information necessary to inform its deliberations on the potential impact of climate change on migratory species</p>	<p>Information on what scientific research is already under way with respect to climate change and international agreements</p> <p>Information on the organisations carrying out the identified work</p> <p>Clarification of information required by CMS, and how existing mechanisms can be used to access that information</p>
Resolution 4.5	Keep under review the composition of Appendices I and II	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required</i>
Resolution 3.4	Advise on measures for the conservation of Appendix I species and their priorities	Information on relevant conservation and management measures
	Advise on the development of existing Agreements and on priorities for development of new Agreements	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species, and opportunities for collaboration in improving conservation status
	Advise on selecting and monitoring small scale pilot projects which will promote the implementation of the Convention	Analysis of conservation status and information on relevant conservation and management measures
	Recommend specific conservation measures for species listed in Appendix I	Information on relevant conservation and management measures
	Recommend conservation and management measures to be included in Agreements for Appendix II species (with priority to various taxa)	Information on relevant conservation and management measures
Resolution 1.4	To keep the species listed in the Appendices under review	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species, and systematic review of appendices
	Provide advice on species that should be added to the Appendices	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species
	To identify and recommend areas of research required to ascertain conservation status of listed species or candidate species	Assessment of gaps in knowledge for reviewing conservation status of migratory species
	To undertake a preliminary review of the impact of artificial barriers to migration (with case studies)	Identification of potential barriers to migration
	To assist in the development of indicative and exemplary Agreements between Range States	Information on relevant conservation and management measures
Table 1.7	To formulate guidelines for the application of such terms as “endangered” and “migratory species”	Use of the terms by other bodies
	To review the species listed in the Appendices in the light of these guidelines	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species
	Provide advice on species that should be added to the Appendices	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required</i>
	To develop a comprehensive and consistent candidate list of species that would benefit from inclusion in the Appendices	Assessment of conservation status of migratory species
	To provide information to all Range States of particular species, with a view to encouraging non-Party States to become Parties	Analysis of conservation status and information on relevant conservation and management measures

Table 1.8 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (a) Simple lists

Number	Task	Source	Mandate
List 1	Status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Convention, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage	Based on details received from Parties and the depositary	Articles XIV-XX
List 2	Status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates	Based on details received from Parties and the depositary	Article X
List 3	Register of which Parties have provided reports and when	Checklist of information received	Resolution 4.1
List 4	Species on Appendix I	Based on COP decisions	Article III
List 5	Species on Appendix II	Based on COP decisions	Article IV
List 6	Range states for species listed in each Appendix	Information paper prepared for each COP [Possibly in need of review and harmonisation with other distribution information compiled for other international agreements]	Article VI, Article IX, Recommendation 5.1
List 7	Agreements	Progress tracked by Secretariat	Article IX
List 8	Decisions of the Conference of the Parties	Based on COP decisions	Article IX
List 9	Contact details	Compiled from various sources	Article IX

Table 1.8(a)

**Table 1.8 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (b) Assessments**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 1	Conservation status of listed species	<p>This information is requested from Parties on accession and when species are added to the Appendix I (Table 1.6), but Parties are apparently not requested to update this information in any structured manner.</p> <p>Other sources include IUCN/SSC, BirdLife International, WCMC and others, and information compiled for some CITES analyses will be relevant.</p>	Article III, Article IV, Article VII, Article VIII, Resolution 4.5, Resolution 3.4, Resolution 1.4, Strategy Objective 5, Recommendation 5.2
Assess 2	Systematic review of Appendix I listed species	Experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Article III, Article VIII, Resolution 3.4, Resolution 1.4
Assess 3	Systematic review of Appendix II listed species	Experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Article IV, Article VIII, Resolution 3.4, Resolution 1.4
Assess 4	Assessment of priority species in regions under-represented in CMS	Experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Strategy Objective 2, Strategy Objective 4
Assess 5	Conservation status of species proposed for listing or de-listing	Information submitted in standard format (Table 1.7) by Parties.	Article VII, Article VIII, Article XI
Assess 6	Preparation of review reports for identified species	Experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Resolution 5.1, Resolution 4.2, Resolution 3.2

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 7	Potential barriers to migration	<p>Party reports (Table 1.8); proposals for amendments to Appendices (Table 1.8).</p> <p>Various other potential sources including IUCN/SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, WCMC and others, and information compiled for the Wetlands Convention on flyways.</p>	Resolution 3.4
Assess 8	Migratory behaviour of listed species	<p>Party reports (Table 1.6); proposals for amendments to Appendices (Table 1.7).</p> <p>Various other potential sources including IUCN/SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, WCMC and others, and information compiled for the Wetlands Convention on flyways.</p>	Article III, IV
Assess 9	Profiles of non-Party states identifying relevant migratory species, implications of becoming a Party, and conservation priorities	<p>Review of available information by Secretariat or organisation working on their behalf.</p> <p>[WCMC has prepared such reviews for the Secretariat in the recent past, drawing on its own information resources, on published literature, and on information compiled in collaboration with IUCN expert networks.]</p>	Strategy Objective 1, Strategy Objective 3
Assess 10	Prioritized list on potential parties based on review of profiles	Review of available information by Secretariat or organisation working on their behalf.	Strategy Objective 1, Strategy Objective 3
Assess 11	Gaps in knowledge for reviewing conservation status of migratory species	Review of available information by Secretariat or organisation working on their behalf.	Resolution 3.4
Assess 12	Ongoing research for both listed species and candidate species	Compilation of information from Parties and from expert organisations such as BirdLife International, Wetlands International and others.	Article VIII

Table 1.8(b)

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 13	Gaps in research for both listed species and candidate species	Assessment of the above against priorities set by the Scientific Council and COP.	Article VIII
Assess 14	Research under way with respect to climate change and international agreements	Compilation of information from Parties and from expert organisations.	Recommendation 5.5
Assess 15	Information on the organisations carrying out work on the impact of climate change	Identification of appropriate organisations and compilation of relevant information on those organisations.	Recommendation 5.5
Assess 16	Use of the terms by other bodies	Review of the use of terms by other bodies by an appropriate expert or experts.	Resolution 1.4

Table 1.8(b)

**Table 1.8 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (c) Conservation measures**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Measures 1	Conservation measures being taken by Range States	This information is in Party reports and when species are added to the Appendix I (Table 1.9).	Article VI
Measures 2	Identification of conservation measures required for listed species	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Article VIII, Resolution 4.5, Resolution 3.4, Resolution 1.4, Recommendation 5.2
Measures 3	Identification of concerted actions and other collaboration that needs to be undertaken for identified species	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat compiling information from multiple sources including Parties and expert organisations and networks.	Resolution 5.1, Resolution 4.5, Resolution 4.2, Resolution 3.2
Measures 4	Identify regional bodies carrying out related conservation initiatives	Compilation of information from Parties and from expert organisations.	Strategy Objective 2
Measures 5	Relevant actions of multilateral agencies providing development assistance	Compilation of information from Parties and from expert organisations.	Strategy Objective 6
Measures 6	Co-ordination of information on action being taken?	Compilation of information from Parties and from expert organisations.	Strategy Objective 5
Measures 7	Information to support recommendations on conservation and management measures to be included in Agreements	??	Article VIII

**Table 1.8 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (d) Information management activities**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Task 1	Analysis, synthesis and management of information provided in Party reports	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat working with information provided by Parties.	Resolution 4.1, Strategy Objective 3
Task 2	Review and evaluation of reports submitted by Parties, based on the full range of available information	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat working with information provided by Parties and supplementary information from other sources including WCMC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, IUCN/SSC and others.	Strategy Objective 3
Task 3	Review progress made towards conservation of migratory species, especially those listed in the Appendices	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat working with information provided by Parties and supplementary information from other sources including WCMC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, IUCN/SSC and others.	Article VII
Task 4	Prepare reports on the implementation of the Convention	Secretariat based on all available information.	Article IX
Task 5	Information which promotes the development and conclusion of Agreements	Secretariat based on all available information.	Article IX
Task 6	Maintain list of "Appropriate" NGOs	Research and compilation in collaboration with Parties and key international NGOs	Recommendation 4.6
Task 7	Collect, manage and disseminate information which will further the objectives and implementation of the Convention	Secretariat based on all available information.	Article IX, Strategy Objective 1
Task 8	Clarification of information required by CMS, and how existing mechanisms can be used to access that information	Expert assistance from WCMC (this project).	Recommendation 5.5
Task 9	Rationalisation of information management	Expert assistance from WCMC (this project).	Strategy Objective 7

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Task 10	Share information with biodiversity-related treaties and the GEF	Responsibility of the Secretariat to ensure that this happens based on advice from other Convention Secretariats, the GEF Secretariat and WCMC on interaction required.	Strategy Objective 8
Task 11	Compilation of information on which to base scientific advice relevant to implementation of the Convention	Difficult to defined sources without knowing what is required. Must ensure <i>mechanisms</i> to locate information and experience	Article VIII

Table I.8(d)

*Table 1.9 - Analysis of Party information requirements (a) Simple lists*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
List 1	List of Appendix I species for which the Party is a Range State	Article III, Article VI
List 2	List of Appendix II species for which the Party is a Range State	Article IV, Article VI
List 3	List of appropriate NGOs for collaboration in CMS implementation	Recommendation 4.6

**Table 1.9 - Analysis of Party information requirements (b) Assessments**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 1	Assessment of conservation priorities for migratory species (new Parties)	Objective 3
Assess 2	Biological and geographical requirements of Appendix I species within the territory	Article III
Assess 3	Biological and geographical requirements of Appendix II species within the territory	Article IV
Assess 4	Characterisation of threats to Appendix I species within the territory	Article III
Assess 5	Characterisation of threats to Appendix II species within the territory	Article IV
Assess 6	Conservation status and distribution of Appendix I species within the territory and progress made in conservation	Article III, Article VII
Assess 7	Conservation status and distribution of Appendix II species within the territory and progress made in conservation	Article IV, Article VII
Assess 8	Information on any “take” of listed species by flag vessels outside national jurisdictional limits	Article VI
Assess 9	Information on conservation status and action with respect to the identified Appendix I species	Recommendation 5.1, Recommendation 5.2, Resolution 4.2, Resolution 3.2
Assess 10	Information required for development of adequate protected areas networks for critically endangered species	Objective 5
Assess 11	Monitoring the taking of animals belonging to Appendix I species within the territory and by flag vessels	Article III
Assess 12	Potential benefits from international coordinated action	Article IV

**Table 1.9 - Analysis of Party information requirements (c) Conservation measures**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Measures 1	Conservation action being taken with respect to Appendix I species	Article III
Measures 2	Conservation action being taken with respect to Appendix II species	Article IV
Measures 3	Conservation measures taken both within the territory, and affecting listed species outside national jurisdictional limits	Article VI
Measures 4	Review of ongoing activities	Strategy Objective 2
Measures 5	Knowledge of action being taken by other Range states	Strategy Objective 5
Measures 6	Results of conservation action with respect to Appendix II species	Article IV
Measures 7	Results of conservation action within the territory with respect to Appendix I species	Article III
Measures 8	What initiatives are planned or under way in regions under-represented in CMS	Strategy Objective 2
Measures 9	What donor agencies are active in the region	Strategy Objective 6
Measures 10	Coordination in-country of information available to those representing the country at meetings of all relevant international treaties	Strategy Objective 8

Table 1.9 - Analysis of Party information requirements (d) Reporting

Number	Task	Mandate
Report 1	Preparation of Party report following agreed format	Resolution 4.1, Objective 3
Report 2	Reports on measures being taken to implement the provisions of the Convention for listed species	Article VI

Table 1.9 - Analysis of Party information requirements (e) Specific taxa issues

Number	Task	Mandate
Taxa 1	Assess and monitor <b>cormorant</b> populations	Recommendation 4.1
Taxa 2	Exchange information on action taken to conserve <b>cormorants</b> in the African-Eurasian region	Recommendation 4.1
Taxa 3	Research the impact of <b>cormorants</b> on fisheries	Recommendation 4.1
Taxa 4	Support completion of the action plan for the great <b>cormorant</b> , taking account of available information	Recommendation 5.3
Taxa 5	Describe the migrations of <b>small cetaceans</b> in national waters	Recommendation 4.2
Taxa 6	Exchange information and technical expertise regarding <b>small cetaceans</b>	Recommendation 4.2
Taxa 7	Identify breeding habitats of <i>Crex crex</i>	Recommendation 4.3
Taxa 8	Identify appropriate agricultural management practices for <i>Crex crex</i>	Recommendation 4.3
Taxa 9	Monitor <b>Houbara Bustard</b> populations in breeding, staging and wintering areas	Recommendation 4.4, Recommendation 5.4

Table 1.10 - Format for Party reports

Mandate	Outline for initial comprehensive report on accession	Outline for updating reports
Resolution 4.1	<div><div><div>I. General Information</div><div><div>- Name of Party</div><div>- Date of report</div><div>- Period covered by report</div><div>- Date of entry into force of the Convention for the Party</div><div>- Territory to which the Convention applies</div><div>- Reservations under Article XIV</div><div>- Reservations under Article XI</div><div>- Appointment to the Scientific Council</div><div>- Designated focal point</div><div>- Membership of the Standing Committee (if appropriate)</div></div></div><div><div>II. Implementation of the Convention</div><div><div>1. Legislation through which the Convention is implemented, including sources of law and competent authorities</div><div>2. Species listed in Appendix I</div><div>(a) Species for which the Party, including its dependent territories, is a Range State and information on flag vessels which are engaged outside national boundaries in taking these migratory species</div></div></div></div>	<div><div><div>I. General Information</div><div><div>- Name of Party</div><div>- Date of Report</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div><div>- Update if changes have occurred</div></div></div><div><div>II. Measures taken to implement decisions of the previous meeting of the Conference of the Parties</div><div>1. Concerning species added to Appendix I</div><div>Same information required</div></div></div>

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Outline for initial comprehensive report on accession</i>	<i>Outline for updating reports</i>
	<p>(b) Population size and trends for species; if appropriate, relevant data on previous and present level</p> <p>(c) Measures taken in accordance with Article III(4), including conservation/restoration of habitats, amelioration of impediments to migration and factors endangering the species</p> <p>(d) Measures taken in accordance with Article III(5), taking of animals, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prohibition of taking (national legislation)</li> <li>- Exceptions (ground for exceptions, period of exceptions, legislation and statistics)</li> </ul>	<p>Same information required</p> <p>Same information required</p> <p>Same information required</p>
	<p><b>3. Species listed in Appendix II</b></p> <p>(a) AGREEMENTS/agreements to which the State is a Party or Signatory in accordance with Articles IV(3) and IV(4); including date of signatory, ratification, etc</p> <p>(b) Progress made by the Party in efforts to develop and conclude new AGREEMENTS/agreements</p> <p>(c) Additional measures taken to conserve migratory species listed in Appendix II (within or outside the framework of CMS AGREEMENTS/agreements)</p>	<p><b>2. Concerning species added to Appendix II</b></p> <p>Steps taken to develop and conclude AGREEMENTS under Article IV(3) and agreements under Article IV(4)</p>
	<p><b>4. Any further action taken by the Party as a result of resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties</b></p>	<p><b>3. Actions taken to implement other resolutions of the Conference of the Parties</b></p>
		<p><b>III. OTHER CHANGES WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION</b></p> <p><b>1. Changes regarding national legislation and competent authorities</b></p>

Mandate	<i>Outline for initial comprehensive report on accession</i>	<i>Outline for updating reports</i>
	<div data-bbox="800 875 996 1541"> <p><b>III. List of national activities relating to species listed in Appendices I &amp; II and to other migratory species (Article II(3a))</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Surveys</li> <li>(b) Monitoring</li> <li>(c) Research</li> </ul> <p><b>IV. Any other comments</b></p> </div>	<div data-bbox="118 210 684 832"> <p><b>2. Concerning species listed in Appendix I</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Changes regarding status as range state</li> <li>(b) Measures which have been taken in accordance with Article III(4) since the last report</li> <li>(c) Exceptions made with respect to Article III(5) since the last report</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Concerning species listing in Appendix II</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Membership in AGREEMENTs/agreements: Articles IV(3) and IV(4)</li> <li>(b) Progress in developing and concluding new draft AGREEMENTs/agreements</li> <li>(c) Update of additional measures to conserve migratory species listed in Appendix II</li> </ul> </div> <div data-bbox="715 245 769 832"> <p><b>4. Any further new action taken by the Party as a result of resolutions of the Conference of the Parties</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="800 546 826 832"> <p><b>IV. Updated list of .....</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="971 577 996 832"> <p><b>IV. Any other comments</b></p> </div>

Table 1.10

Table 1.11 - Format for proposals for amendment of the Appendices

Mandate	Headings	Explanatory notes
Resolution 1.5	A. PROPOSAL	Definition of the proposal (species, sub-species or higher taxon; whether the entire or only part of the population should be included; whether inclusion in Appendix I or II or in both appendices is proposed).
	B. PROPONENT	Official name of the Contracting Party submitting the proposal.
	C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT	A brief selection of the most important scientific data which explain and substantiate the proposal; these data may be gathered from technical literature or from reports which have so far not been published (indication of source). The proposals should contain the following details:  Taxonomy: the relevant scientific names as well as the names in those languages in which the official Convention text was drawn up.
	1. Taxon	
	1.1 Classis	
	1.2 Ordo	
	1.3 Familia	
	1.4 Genus or species resp. subspecies, including author and year	
	1.5 Common name(s), where applicable	
	2. Biological data	
	2.1 Distribution (current and historical) - see also 5	Description of the range, including changes in historical times as well as division of the overall range into reproduction, migrating and wintering (resting) ranges; add a map, if necessary.

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Headings</i>	<i>Explanatory notes</i>
	2.2 Population (estimates and trends)	Short quantitative characterisation of the population (number, sizes, quantitative data from test areas) and its changes, including the population trend (extent and rate).
	2.3 Habitat (short description and trends)	Short ecological characterisation of habitats which are used by one or more animal species; indication of the most important structures of habitats which are responsible for the survival of the species during migration and in its wintering (resting) areas.
	2.4 Migrations (kinds of movement, distance, proportion of the population migrating)	Description of the character of regular migrations, indicating the geographical extent of the population movements and including information on whether the entire or only part (which ?) of the population undertakes regular migrations.
	3. <i>Threat data</i>	Threat data: Listing of factors - broken down into four groups which are responsible for the species being endangered or for its poor conservation status; as far as factors 1 to 3 are concerned, it must also be specified whether these factors are operating in breeding, migrating or resting areas.
	3.1 Direct threat of the population (factors, intensity)	
	3.2 Habitat destruction (quality of changes, quantity of loss)	
	3.3 Indirect threat (e.g. reduction of breeding success by pesticide contamination)	
	3.4 Threat connected especially with migrations	
	3.5 National and international utilisation	

Table 1.11

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Headings</i>	<i>Explanatory notes</i>
	<i>4. Protection status and needs</i>	
	4.1 National protection status	
	4.2 International protection status	
	4.3 Additional protection needs	
	<i>5. Range States</i>	Listing of States where the occurrence of species has been proved (indicating, perhaps, whether these are breeding, migrating or resting ranges).
	<i>6. Comments from Range States</i>	It is necessary to consult, as far as possible, experts and/or nature conservation authorities of the other Range States before the proposal is submitted and to give a brief outline of their comments upon the proposal on this format. These data make it easier both for the Scientific Council and for the Conference of the Parties to take the necessary decisions.
	<i>7. Additional remarks</i>	
	<i>8. References</i>	

Table 1.12 - Format for reviews of species as part of concerted actions

Mandate	Headings	Explanatory notes
Resolution 3.2	<b>1. Taxonomy</b>	
	1.1 Special taxonomy	
	1.2 Common name	
	<b>2. Biological data</b>	
	2.1 Distribution (current and historical)	
	2.2 Habitat	
	2.3 Population estimates and trends	
	2.4 Migratory patterns	
	<b>3. Conservation status</b>	
	<b>4. Actual and potential threats</b>	
	4.1 Habitat degradation/loss	
	4.2 Exploitation: direct and incidental (including flag vessels, where applicable)	
	4.3 Other threats	
	<b>5. Legislation</b>	
	5.1 International	
	5.2 National	

**6. Conservation measures, by Party**

6.1 Prohibition of taking, including any exceptions (grounds for exception, duration, analysis of effects)

6.2 Conservation/restoration of habitat

6.3 Mitigation of impediments to migration

6.4 Regulation of other detrimental factors

6.5 Further measures

**7. Research activities**

7.1 Governmental

7.2 Non-governmental

**8. Needs and recommended actions**

8.1 legislative

8.2 Conservation measures

8.3 Research and monitoring

8.4 Other

**9. Additional remarks**

**10. References**

***Table 2 - Assessment of ASCOBANS information requirements***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 2.1	Agreement
Table 2.2	Agreement Annex - Conservation Management Plan
Table 2.3	Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties
Table 2.4	Advisory Committee roles
Table 2.5	Analysis of Secretariat information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessment
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Reporting
Table 2.6	Analysis of Party information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessment
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Reporting
Table 2.7	National Report

**Table 2.1 - ASCOBANS Agreement**

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Paragraph 1	<i>Scope and Interpretation</i> of terms used	None	Key areas used by species and populations covered by the Agreement
Paragraph 2	<i>Purpose and basic arrangements</i> , identifying the responsibilities of Parties and referring to conservation and management plan Annex	See Table 2.2	See Table 2.2
Paragraph 3	Concerns the responsibilities of <i>co-ordinating authorities</i> within each country	Annual report on progress made and difficulties experienced during the past calendar year in implementing the Agreement	None
Paragraph 4	Defines the responsibilities of <i>the Secretariat</i>	None	None
			Facilitate the exchange of information
			Summary of Party reports
			Information on what relevant research and monitoring activities are under way, where, so as to facilitate co-ordination of monitoring and research
			Prepare reports on the implementation of the Agreement
Paragraph 5	Defines the responsibilities of <i>the Advisory Committee</i>	None	Information to support delivery of "expert advice and information"
			Information on the related work of other international bodies

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Paragraph 6-7	Concerns the <i>meeting of the Parties</i> and <i>financing</i> , including processes for amending the Agreement	None	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates
Paragraph 7	Covers <i>financing</i>	None	None
Paragraph 8	Concerns <i>legal matters and formalities</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage

Table 2.1

**Table 2.2 - ASCOBANS Agreement Annex - Conservation and Management Plan**

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Annex Paragraph 1	Prevention of release of potentially harmful substances	Identification of substances which may be harmful	Compiled information on substances which may be harmful
	Modification of fishing gear and practices to reduce by-catch and other damage	Experience of others	Sharing experience from elsewhere
	Effective regulation of activities affecting food sources	Identification of potentially harmful activities	Compiled information on potentially harmful activities
	Prevention of other significant disturbance, particularly acoustic activity	Experience of others	Sharing experience from elsewhere
Annex Paragraph 2	Co-ordination and sharing of research between Parties and competent international organisations	Identification of potentially harmful activities	Compiled information on potentially harmful activities
	Assessment of the status and seasonal movements of populations and stocks	None	Information to support co-ordination and sharing of information
	Location of areas of special importance	Status and distribution of species, populations and stocks	Compiled information on status and distribution of species, populations and stocks
	Identification of biological requirements	Identification of areas of special importance	Compiled information on areas of special importance
	Identification of present and potential threats to the species and their requirements	Identification of biological requirements	Compiled information on biological requirements
		Identification past and present threats	Compiled information on past and present threats

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Annex Paragraph 3	System for reporting and retrieving by-catches and strandings, and for dealing effectively with the specimens	Where strandings and by-catches are occurring, and statistics	Compiled information on where by-catch and strandings are occurring, and on reporting schemes
Annex Paragraph 4	Prohibition under national law of the intentional taking and killing of small cetaceans	What information is required from animals and who can obtain the information	Compiled information from analysis of by-catch and stranded animals
	Obligation to release immediately any animals caught alive	Information on illegal taking and killing	Compiled information on illegal taking and killing
Annex Paragraph 5	Provision of information to the general public and fishermen	Information on catch and release	Compiled information on catch and release
Resolution 1.2	Standardisation of analytical and reporting procedures in post-mortems, biopsies and pollution analyses	Not covered here	Not covered here
	Other parts of this resolution are already covered above	None	Experience of others

Table 2.2

**Table 2.3 - ASCOBANS Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties**

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Resolution 2.1	Financial and budgetary matters	None	None
Resolution 2.2	Establishment and location of the Secretariat	None	None
Resolution 2.3	Concerning the incidental take of small cetaceans; agreeing conservation specific objectives and approaches	Estimates of marine mammal by-catch in fisheries	Compiled information from Parties on annual by-catch rates
		Assessment of methods to reduce by-catch and fully evaluate their ecological implications	Compile and share information
		Estimate of total harbour porpoise by-catch in Skagerrak/Kattegat/Belt Sea	Compile and share information
		Identify human activities that are potential threats to the recovery of porpoises in the Baltic sea	Compile and share information
Resolution 2.4	Management and further research needs to address effects of pollutants on cetacean health	Data on cause-effect relationships concerning pollutants and cetacean health	Compile and share information
		Estimates of levels of pollutant emissions and location of sources	Compile and share information
Resolution 2.5	Sets priorities for the activities of the Advisory Committee	See Table 2.4	See Table 4.4
Resolution 2.6	Concerns "further implementation" of the Agreement in various areas:	See below	See below

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
	Research aimed at establishment of protected areas	Identification of key areas for protection	Compilation of information
	Research aimed at improving management of protected areas for cetaceans	Experience of others	Sharing experiences
	Post mortem of all cetacean bodies found	None	Share information
	Reduction of disturbance	Location of sources of seismic disturbance	Compile information on sources of seismic disturbance
	Research	Experience of others	Sharing experiences
		Information on status, distribution, migratory behaviour and biological requirements	Compiled information
Resolution 1.1	Submission and format of national reports	See Table 2.7	See Table 2.7
Resolution 1.2	Implementation of the conservation and management plan	See Table 2.2	See Table 2.2
Resolution 1.3	Financial and budgetary matters	None	None
Resolution 1.4	Location of the permanent secretariat	None	None
Resolution 1.5	Establishment of the Advisory Committee	See Table 2.4	See Table 2.4
Resolution 1.6	Clarification of the area covered by the Agreement	None	None

Table 2.3

**Table 2.4 - ASCOBAN Advisory Committee roles**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required</i>
Resolution 2.5	Assess new information on population sizes and structures, and by-catches of small cetaceans, and provide recommendations	Information on population sizes and structures, and by-catches
	Review international meetings to identify ASCOBANS participation	List of relevant meetings
	Review criteria for identifying, establishing and managing protected areas for small cetaceans	Criteria used by others
	Database on post-mortem results	Database on post-mortem results
	Review levels of disturbance caused by seismic activity, and methods to reduce disturbance	Location of sources and levels of seismic disturbance
Resolution 1.5	Review new information on pollution and its effects	Experience of others in reducing disturbance from seismic activity
	Develop conservation objectives for small cetacean populations that will enable decisions on unacceptable by-catch and on monitoring programmes	Information on sources and levels of pollution
	Review format for national reports	Information on the effects of pollution on small cetaceans
	Exchange of information with other international bodies, and encourage joint research and collaboration	Information on conservation status and trends
	Assess national reports and other relevant information	None
Common standards for research or analytical procedures		Information on what is being done by who
		National reports and information from other sources with which to compare and assess them
		Experience of others

Table 2.5 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (a) Simple lists

Number	Task	Source	Mandate
List 1	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage	Based on details received from Parties and the depository	Agreement Paragraph 8
List 2	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates	Based on details received from Parties and the depository	Agreement Paragraph 6-7
List 3	List of relevant meetings	Compiled by the Secretariat or someone on their behalf from multiple sources	Resolution 2.5

**Table 2.5 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (b) Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Compile 1	Conservation status and trends	While anecdotal information can be compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, potentially augmented by information from other sources, this requires a periodic major survey to provide adequate information	Annex Paragraph 2, Resolution 2.5, Resolution 2.6
Compile 2	Distribution and migratory behaviour	While anecdotal information can be compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, potentially augmented by information from other sources, this requires a periodic major survey to provide adequate information	Agreement Paragraph 1, Annex Paragraph 2, Resolution 2.6
Compile 3	Population sizes and structures	While anecdotal information can be compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, potentially augmented by information from other sources, this requires a periodic major survey to provide adequate information	Resolution 2.5
Compile 4	Biological requirements	Compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, potentially augmented by information from other sources – lower priority that many of the other actions	Annex Paragraph 2
Compile 5	Areas of special importance	Compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, augmented by the brief annual reports, and potentially augmented by information from other sources.	Annex Paragraph 2
Compile 6	Annual by-catch rates of species and populations, and location of by-catch and strandings	Compiled from annual and tri-annual Party reports (very significant activity)	Annex Paragraph 3, Resolution 2.3, Resolution 2.5

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Compile 7	Procedures used to report on by-catch and strandings	Done, with information compiled from Parties	Annex Paragraph 3
Compile 8	Post-mortem analysis of by-catch and stranded animals	Compiled from annual and tri-annual Party reports	Annex Paragraph 3
Compile 9	Methods to reduce by-catch and fully evaluate their ecological implications	Ongoing review of procedures, taken from annual and tri-annual Party reports, and from research programmes	Resolution 2.3
Compile 10	Catch and release	Minor issue, and not requiring regular review	Annex Paragraph 4
Compile 11	Illegal taking and killing	There is currently no know illegal capture	Annex Paragraph 4
Compile 12	Potentially harmful activities	Ongoing assessment based on information compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, augmented by the brief annual reports, and potentially augmented by information from other sources.	Annex Paragraph 1, Resolution 2.3
Compile 13	Substances which may be harmful	Ongoing assessment based on information compiled from the three-yearly reports by Parties, augmented by the brief annual reports, and potentially augmented by information from other sources.	Annex Paragraph 1
Compile 14	Cause-effect relationships concerning pollutants and cetacean health	“Watching brief” on ongoing research in this area	Resolution 2.4, Resolution 2.5
Compile 15	Levels of pollutant emissions and location of sources	Covered by other agreements (HELCOM and OSPAR) and therefore not currently dealt with by ASCOBANS	Resolution 2.4, Resolution 2.5
Compile 16	Sources and levels of seismic disturbance	Ongoing assessment compiled from the brief annual reports, and potentially augmented by information from other sources.	Resolution 2.5, Resolution 2.6

Table 2.5(b)

**Table 2.5 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (c) Accessing experience**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Experience 1	Experience of others in common standards for research and analytical procedures, for definition of common standards and procedures	Compilation by an appropriate expert on behalf of the Secretariat	Resolution 1.5
Experience 2	Experience of others in standardisation of analytical and reporting procedures in post-mortems, biopsies and pollution analyses	Under way, linked to the development of a metadatabase on post mortem results	Resolution 1.2
Experience 3	Identification of criteria used by others for establishing and managing protected areas for small cetaceans, and sharing experiences on improving management of protected areas for cetaceans	Not currently being carried out, as it is not relevant to existing priorities. Information could be compiled easily from known sources	Resolution 2.5, Resolution 2.6
Experience 4	Sharing experience from elsewhere on the modification of fishing gear and practices to reduce by-catch and other damage	Compiled from Party reports, and potentially other sources - very high priority.	Annex Paragraph 1
Experience 5	Experience of others in effective regulation of activities affecting available food for cetaceans	Not currently being worked on as there are no good models available, and this is a low priority problem.	Annex Paragraph 1
Experience 6	Experience of others in reducing disturbance from seismic activity	Already done in part. Compiled from Party reports, and potentially other sources.	Resolution 2.5
Experience 7	Information on who is doing what internationally in conservation, management and research on small cetaceans	Compilation by the Secretariat (or an appropriate expert on their behalf), and much of the information already exists	Agreement Paragraph 5, Resolution 1.5
Experience 8	Information on what relevant research and monitoring activities are under way, where, so as to facilitate co-ordination of monitoring and research	Compilation by the Secretariat or an appropriate expert on their behalf	Agreement Paragraph 4

Table 2.5 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (d) Information management activities

Number	Task	Source	Mandate
Task 1	Establish and manage a database on post-mortem results	Information from Parties, Secretariat is developing mechanisms for management and dissemination of information.	Resolution 2.5
Task 2	Support and facilitate co-ordination and sharing of information	Information from Parties, Secretariat to ensure mechanism for management and dissemination of information.	Agreement Paragraph 4, Annex Paragraph 2
Task 3	Compile information to support delivery of “expert advice and information”	Difficult to define sources without knowing what is required. Must ensure <i>mechanisms</i> to locate information and experience.	Agreement Paragraph 5
Task 4	Prepare reports on the implementation of the Agreement	Secretariat based on all available information	Agreement Paragraph 4
Task 5	Prepare a summary of Party reports	Secretariat based on Party reports	Agreement Paragraph 4
Task 6	Review national reports and information from other sources	Secretariat or experts identified by the Secretariat working with information provided by the Parties and supplementary information from other sources.	Resolution 1.5

*Table 2.6 - Analysis of Party information requirements (a) Simple lists*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
[NO LISTS]		

Table 2.6 - Analysis of Party information requirements (b) Assessment

Number	Task	Mandate
Assess 1	Conservation status and trends	Annex Paragraph 2, Resolution 2.6
Assess 2	Distribution and migratory behaviour	Resolution 2.6
Assess 3	Biological requirements	Annex Paragraph 2, Resolution 2.6
Assess 4	Areas of special importance, key areas for protection	Annex Paragraph 2, Resolution 2.6
Assess 5	Estimates of marine mammal by-catch in fisheries	Resolution 2.3
Assess 6	Where strandings and by-catches are occurring, and statistics	Annex Paragraph 3
Assess 7	Catch and release	Annex Paragraph 4
Assess 8	Illegal taking and killing	Annex Paragraph 4
Assess 9	Identification of potentially harmful activities	Annex Paragraph 1, Resolution 2.3
Assess 10	Identification of substances which may be harmful	Annex Paragraph 1
Assess 11	Data on cause-effect relationships concerning pollutants and cetacean health	Resolution 2.4
Assess 12	Estimates of levels of pollutant emissions and location of sources	Resolution 2.4
Assess 13	Location of sources of seismic disturbance	Resolution 2.6

**Table 2.6 - Analysis of Party information requirements (c) Conservation measures**

Number	Task	Mandate
Measures 1	What information is required from animals and who can obtain the information	Annex Paragraph 3
Measures 2	Experience of others in improving management of protected areas for cetaceans	Resolution 2.6
Measures 3	Assessment of methods to reduce by-catch and fully evaluate their ecological implications	Resolution 2.3
Measures 4	Experience of others in modification of fishing gear and practices to reduce by-catch and other damage	Annex Paragraph 1
Measures 5	Experience of others in effective regulation of activities affecting food sources	Annex Paragraph 1
Measures 6	Experience of others in reducing disturbance (particularly seismic disturbance)	Resolution 2.6

Table 2.6 - Analysis of Party information requirements (d) Reporting

Number	Task	Mandate
Report 1	Annual report on progress made and difficulties experienced during the past calendar year in implementing the Agreement	Agreement Paragraph 2

**Table 2.7 - ASCOBANS National Report**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Outline for tri-annual national report</i>	<i>Outline for brief annual national report</i>
Outline for annual report prepared by the Advisory Committee at the request of the Second Meeting of the Parties	<b>A. General information</b>	<b>A. General information</b>
Outline for tri-annual national report from Resolution 1.1	Name of Party	Name of Party
	Date of report	Date of report
	Period covered by report	Period covered by report
	Changes regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- co-ordinating authority</li> <li>- appointed member of the advisory committee</li> <li>- membership of other committees/working groups</li> </ul>	Name of report compiler
	<b>B. Measures taken to implement the Conservation and Management Plan</b>	Any changes in co-ordinating authority, appointed member of advisory committee
	Preamble: Indication of institutions engaged in activities reported	<b>B. New measures/action towards meeting the resolutions of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of Parties</b>
	<b>1. Reduction of Pollution</b>	
	1.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	
	1.2 Research	
	1.3 Management measures	
	<b>2. Reduction of direct interactions with fisheries</b>	<b>1. Direct interaction of small cetaceans with fisheries</b>

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Outline for tri-annual national report</i>	<i>Outline for brief annual national report</i>
	2.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	Investigations of methods to reduce by-catch
	2.2 Research	Implementation of methods to reduce anthropogenic removal
	2.3 Management measures	Estimates of by-catch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries (for each species estimated numbers of by-caught animals, area (ICES area or more detailed), notes (type of fishery, etc))
	<b>3. <i>Reduction of indirect interactions with fisheries</i></b>	
	2.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	
	2.2 Research	
	2.3 Management measures	
	<b>4. <i>Reduction of disturbance</i></b>	<b>2. <i>Reduction of disturbance to small cetaceans</i></b>
	4.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	Information on levels of disturbance (e.g. seismic surveys, new high speed ferry routes, studies about acoustic impacts on cetaceans)
	4.2 Research	
	4.3 Management measures	Implementation of guidelines, new legislation, etc, to reduce disturbance
	<b>5. <i>Protected areas</i></b>	<b>3. <i>Protected areas for small cetaceans</i></b>
	5.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	
	5.2 Research	
	5.3 Management measures	Measures taken to identify, implement and manage protected areas

Table 2.7

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Outline for tri-annual national report</i>	<i>Outline for brief annual national report</i>
	<i>6. Monitoring, status and population studies</i>	<i>4. Further research on small cetaceans</i>
	6.1 Collation/Information gaining/Assessments	Implementation of schemes to use and gain information from stranded cetaceans
	6.2 Research	Research on abundance, population structure, etc
	6.3 Management measures	Research on the effects of pollutants on cetacean health
	<i>7. Advocacy/information/education</i>	
	<i>8. Administrative measures</i>	
	<i>9. Establishment of databases</i>	
	<i>10. Publications</i>	

Table 2.7

***Table 3 - Assessment of EUROBATS information requirements***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 3.1	Agreement
Table 3.2	Resolutions of the meetings of the Parties
Table 3.3	Conservation and Management Plan
Table 3.4	Advisory Committee roles
Table 3.5	Assessment of Secretariat information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States
	(c) Accessing experience and sharing information
	(d) Information management activities
Table 3.6	Assessment of Party information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessment
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Reporting
Table 3.7	Format of the National report

**Table 3.1 - Agreement**

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Articles I-II	<i>Scope and Interpretation of terms used and general provisions</i>	None	None
Article III	<i>Fundamental obligations of Parties</i>	List of Agreement species for which the Party is a Range State	List of species covered by the Agreement
		Conservation status and distribution of bat species	Range states of species covered by the Agreement
		Sites important for maintaining or improving conservation status, including feeding areas	
		Habitats important for bat species	
		Biological requirements of bat species	
		Sharing of information on research	Sharing of information on research
		Sharing of information on potential impact of pesticides	Sharing of information on potential impact of pesticides
Article IV	Concerns aspects of <i>national implementation</i> through legislative and administrative measures	None	None
Article V	Establishes the <i>Meetings of the Parties</i> and aspects of their management	None	None
Article VI	<i>Reports on implementation</i>	Preparation of a report in advance of each meeting of the Parties	None
Article VII	Concerning <i>amendment of the agreement</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Article VIII	Concerns <i>Reservations</i> which may be made	None	Reservations made by each specific Party
Article IX	Concerns mechanisms for <i>settlement of disputes</i>	None	None
Article X -XIV	Mechanisms and procedures for <i>Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval, Accession, Entry into Force, and Denunciation and termination</i> , and identification of the role of the <i>Depository</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Convention and entry into force, with dates of each major stage

**Table 3.2 – Resolutions of the Meetings of the Parties**

<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Information required by Contracting Party</b>	<b>Information required by Secretariat</b>
Resolution 2.1	Financial and budgetary matters	None	None
Resolution 2.2	Consistent monitoring methodologies	Monitoring of numbers in standard ways for identified species, using counts at maternity roosts, counts at hibernation sites, and counts away from roosts using bat detectors	Database of monitoring activities
Resolution 2.3	Transboundary programme: species proposals	Exchange information on results of monitoring and survey work	Database of the results of monitoring activities
		Mechanisms for secure handling of the information arising from monitoring and survey	Report to the Meeting of the Parties on monitoring
		Status, distribution and migration patterns of <i>Myotis dasycneme</i> and <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	Co-ordinate transboundary collaboration and report to the Meeting of the Parties on progress
Resolution 2.4	Transboundary programme: habitat proposals	Compilation of information on underground habitats and forests important for bat conservation using standard methodologies	Compilation of information on underground habitats and forests important for bat conservation
Resolution 2.5	Geographical scope of the Agreement	None	Assessment of national data on bat conservation in underground sites and forests
			Review range states
Resolution 2.6	Terms of reference for the Advisory Committee	See Table 3.4	Review all available data on bat migration with a view to developing a comprehensive map of migration for each bat species
			See Table 3.4

<i><b>Resolution</b></i>	<i><b>Summary</b></i>	<i><b>Information required by Contracting Party</b></i>	<i><b>Information required by Secretariat</b></i>
Resolution 2.7	Format of National Reports	See Table 3.7	See Table 3.7
Resolution 2.8	On the implementation of the conservation and management plan	See Table 3.3	See Table 3.3
Resolution 1.1	Clarification of the area of the Agreement	None	Related international activities and their relevance to bat conservation
Resolution 1.2	Confirming an amendment of the scope of the Agreement	List of newly added species for which the Party is a Range State	None
Resolution 1.3	Establishment and location of the permanent secretariat	None	List of newly added species covered by the Agreement  Facilitate exchange of information
Resolution 1.4	Establishment of an Advisory Committee	See Table 3.4	Assist with co-ordination of research and monitoring
Resolution 1.5	Financial and budgetary matters	None	See Table 3.4  None
Resolution 1.6	Format and frequency of national reports	Superseded by Resolution 2.7	Superseded by Resolution 2.7
Resolution 1.7	Implementation of the conservation and management plan	See Table 3.3	See Table 3.3

Table 3.2

**Table 3.3 – Conservation and management plan**

<i>Action</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Action 1	Legal measures to implement Article III.1	None	None
Action 2	?	?	?
Action 3	Regular monitoring at key hibernation sites	Maintain information on population trends	Compilation of information on population trends
Action 4	Monitoring of multi-species hibernation sites	Location of important hibernation sites	None
Action 5	Development of methodologies for counting at summer roosts	Sharing information on movement between roosts and changes in roost use	None
Action 6	Methodologies of sample surveys of flying bats	Sharing of experience	Facilitate sharing of experience in monitoring and survey methodology
Action 7	Identification of bat “flyways”	Timing and distribution patterns of migration	Compilation of information on timing and distribution patterns of migration
Action 8	Autecological studies on species where data are lacking	Assessment of available information on each species	Assessment of available information on each species
Action 9-14	Identification of important roosts and their conservation	Location of roosts	Ensure sharing of information on roost sites, to facilitate assessment of relative importance of known sites
		Criteria for identifying which roosts are of importance both nationally and internationally	
		Sharing of information about roost sites	

<i>Action</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Action 15	Habitat surveys to identify importance of different habitat types at different times of the year	Bat feeding habits, including timing and use of different habitat types	Facilitate international sharing of information on bat feeding and relative importance of habitats for bats
Action 16	Critical feeding sites close to maternity sites of national/international importance	Relative importance of different habitat types for bats at different times of the year	
Action 17	Use of habitat and autecological information in provision of advice to land managers	Location of maternity sites, and critical feeding sites in the surrounding areas	
Action 18	Protection of foraging areas	Habitat use and autecological information for each species	Facilitate sharing of experience on mechanisms for retaining or recreating features of importance to bats
Action 19-21	Public awareness	Mechanisms which can be used by land managers to retain or recreate features of importance to bats	
Action 22	Concerning impacts of timber treatment products on bats	Location of foraging areas	Sharing of information arising from surveys of human attitudes to bats
Action 23	Concerning impacts of anti-parasitic drugs on bats	Survey of human attitudes to bats	Sharing information on potential impact of timber treatment products on bats
Action 24	Cooperation in conservation and management of bats and habitats	Potential impact of timber treatment products on bats	Sharing information on potential impact of anti-parasitic drugs on bats
Action 25	Consider development of a bat information centre	Potential impact of anti-parasitic drugs on bats	Sharing of information and experience
		Sharing of information and experience	Identification of users of bat information, and the information that they require
			Identification of the sources and quality of bat information, and the ways in which it is currently managed

Table 3.3

**Table 3.4 – Advisory Committee roles**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required</i>
Resolution 2.6	Provide expert advice and information to the Secretariat and the Parties on conservation and management of bats	Relevant work being done by other international bodies
Resolution 2.2	Ensure the dissemination of information and cooperation between Parties	Mechanisms to ensure the sharing of information between Parties
Resolution 2.4	Review the intersessional progress of monitoring work, and make appropriate advice on the database and guidelines	Information on monitoring programmes and results arising from those programmes
Resolution 2.5	Consideration of the assessment of national data on underground sites and forests	Assessment of national data on underground sites and forests
Resolution 2.8	Review bat migration	Review all available data on bat migration with a view to developing a comprehensive map of migration for each bat species
Resolution 1.4	Ongoing implementation of the conservation and management plan, and reporting to the next Meeting of the Parties	See Table 3.3
	Ongoing implementation of the conservation and management plan, and reporting to the next Meeting of the Parties	See Table 3.3

**Table 3.5 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (a) Simple lists**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
List 1	List of species covered by the Agreement	Based on the Convention and subsequent MOP resolutions	Article III, Resolution 1.2
List 3	Range states of species covered by the Agreement	??	Article III
List 4	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Convention and entry into force, with dates of each major stage	Based on details received from Parties and the depository	Article X -XIV
List 5	Reservations made by each specific Party	Based on details received from Parties and the depository	Article VIII
List 6	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates	Based on details received from Parties and the depository	Article VII

**Table 3.5 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (b) Compilation and assessments based on information from Range States**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Compile 1	Assessment of available information on each species	From Party reports and other national and international research	Action 8
Compile 2	Assessment of national data on bat conservation in underground sites and forests	From Party reports, and from specific research arising from the resolution	Resolution 2.4
Compile 3	Compilation of information on underground habitats and forests important for bat conservation	From Party reports, and from specific research arising from the resolution	Resolution 2.4
Compile 4	Database of information on monitoring programmes and results arising from those programmes	From Party reports, and from specific requests for information	Resolution 2.2
Compile 5	Database of the results of monitoring activities	From Party reports, and from specific research arising from monitoring studies	Resolution 2.2
Compile 6	Compilation of information on population trends	From Party reports, and from specific research arising from monitoring studies	Action 3
Compile 7	Compilation of information on timing and distribution patterns of migration	From Party reports, supplemented by national and international research programmes on bats	Action 7
Compile 8	Identification of the sources and quality of bat information, and the ways in which it is currently managed	From Party reports, and from specific requests for information	Action 25
Compile 9	International activities related to bat conservation and the conservation and management plan and their relevance	Assessment lead by an appropriate expert based on input from Range states	Resolution 2.6, Resolution 2.8

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Compile 10	Review all available data on bat migration with a view to developing a comprehensive map of migration for each bat species	Assessment lead by an appropriate expert based on input from Range states	Resolution 2.5
Compile 11	Review range states	Assessment lead by an appropriate expert based on input from Range states	Resolution 2.5

Table 3.5(b)

*Table 3.5 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (c) Accessing experience and sharing information*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Access 1	Facilitate sharing of experience in monitoring and survey methodology	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 6
Access 2	Facilitate sharing of experience on mechanisms for retaining or recreating features of importance to bats	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 18
Access 7	Sharing of information and experience	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 24
Access 8	Sharing information on potential impact of anti-parasitic drugs on bats	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 23
Access 9	Sharing information on potential impact of timber treatment products on bats	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 22
Access 10	Sharing of information arising from surveys of human attitudes to bats	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 19-21
Access 11	Sharing of information on potential impact of pesticides	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Article III
Access 12	Sharing of information on research	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Article III

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Access 13	Ensure sharing of information on roost sites, to facilitate assessment of relative importance of known sites	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 9-14
Access 14	Facilitate international sharing of information on bat feeding and relative importance of habitats for bats	Source of information is range states and other experts, but systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Action 15

Table 3.5(c)

*Table 3.5 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (d) Information management activities*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Task 2	Mechanisms to ensure the sharing of information between Parties	Systematic mechanism for sharing is unclear	Resolution 2.6
Task 3	Identification of users of bat information, and the information that they require	Source of information is survey of users which should be carried out prior to development of any database or information centre	Action 25
Task 4	Assist with co-ordination of research and monitoring	Information from Parties and other relevant organizations	Resolution 1.3
Task 5	Report to the Meeting of the Parties on monitoring	Secretariat based on all available information	Resolution 2.2
Task 6	Co-ordinate transboundary collaboration and report to the Meeting of the Parties on progress	Information is required from Parties on activities being undertaken in order to ensure co-ordination, and to report on that collaboration	Resolution 2.3

*Table 3.6 - Assessment of Party information requirements (a) Simple lists*

<i>Number</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Article</i>
List 1	List of Agreement species for which the Party is a Range State	Article III
List 2	List of newly added species for which the Party is a Range State	Resolution 1.2

**Table 3.6 - Assessment of Party information requirements (b) Assessment**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Information required by Contracting Party</b>	<b>Article</b>
Assess 1	Conservation status and distribution of bat species	Article III
Assess 2	Assessment of available information on each species	Action 8
Assess 3	Status, distribution and migration patterns of <i>Myotis dasycneme</i> and <i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	Resolution 2.3
Assess 4	Timing and distribution patterns of migration	Action 7
Assess 5	Maintain information on population trends	Action 3
Assess 6	Biological requirements of bat species	Article III
Assess 7	Habitats important for bat species	Article III
Assess 8	Habitat use and autecological information for each species	Action 17
Assess 9	Bat feeding habits, including timing and use of different habitat types	Action 15
Assess 10	Compilation of information on underground habitats and forests important for bat conservation using standard methodologies	Resolution 2.4
Assess 11	Location of foraging areas	Action 18
Assess 12	Location of roosts	Action 9-14
Assess 13	Criteria for identifying which roosts are of importance both nationally and internationally	Action 9-14
Assess 14	Location of important hibernation sites	Action 3
Assess 15	Location of important multi-species hibernation sites	Action 4
Assess 16	Location of maternity sites, and critical feeding sites in the surrounding areas	Action 16

<i>Number</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Article</i>
Assess 17	Monitoring of numbers in standard ways for identified species, using counts at maternity roosts, counts at hibernation sites, and counts away from roosts using bat detectors	Resolution 2.2
Assess 18	Relative importance of different habitat types for bats at different times of the year	Action 15
Assess 19	Sites important for maintaining or improving conservation status, including feeding areas	Article III
Assess 20	Potential impact of anti-parasitic drugs on bats	Action 23
Assess 21	Potential impact of timber treatment products on bats	Action 22
Assess 22	Survey of human attitudes to bats	Action 19-21
Assess 23	Exchange information on results of monitoring and survey work	Resolution 2.2

Table 3.6(b)

Table 3.6 - Assessment of Party information requirements (c) Conservation measures

Number	Information required by Contracting Party	Article
Measures 1	Mechanisms for secure handling of the information arising from monitoring and survey	Resolution 2.2
Measures 2	Mechanisms which can be used by land managers to retain or recreate features of importance to bats	Action 18
Measures 3	Sharing of experience	Action 6, Action 24

Table 3.6 – Assessment of Party information requirements (d) Reporting

Number	Information required by Contracting Party	Article
Report 1	Preparation of a report in advance of each meeting of the Parties	Article VI
Report 2	Sharing of information	Action 24
Report 3	Sharing of information about roost sites	Action 9-14
Report 4	Sharing information on movement between roosts and changes in roost use	Action 5
Report 5	Sharing of information on potential impact of pesticides	Article III
Report 6	Sharing of information on research	Article III

Table 3.7 – Format of the National Reports

Mandate	Guidelines for national reports
Resolution 2.7	<div><div>A. General Information</div><div><div>Name of Party</div><div>Date of Report</div><div>Period covered</div><div>Competent Authority</div><div>Changes regarding<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Competent Authority</li><li>Appointed member of Advisory Committee</li><li>Membership of other committees or working groups</li></ul></div></div><div>B. Status of bats within the territory of the Party</div><div><div>1. Summary details of resident species</div><div>2. Status and trends</div><div>3. Habitats and roost sites</div><div>4. Threats</div><div>5. Data collection, analysis, interpretation and dissemination</div></div><div>C. Measures taken to implement Article III of the Agreement</div><div><div>6. Legal measures taken to protect bats, including enforcement action</div><div>7. Sites identified and protected which are important to the conservation of bats</div></div></div>

- 8. Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats
  - 9. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of the conservation of bats
  - 10. Responsible bodies, in accordance with Article III.5 of the Agreement, nominated for the provision of advice on bat conservation and management
  - 11. Additional action undertaken to safeguard populations of bats
  - 12. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research and policy initiatives) relating to the conservation and management of bats. In the case of research, summaries of completed projects should be provided, giving references where possible and acknowledging the sources of funding.
  - 13. Consideration given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats, and their food sources and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats.
- D. Functioning of the Agreement**
- 14. Cooperation with other Range States



***Table 4 - Assessment of AEWA information requirements***

<i>Table</i>	<i>Title</i>
Table 4.1	Agreement
Table 4.2	Action Plan
Table 4.3	Assessment of Secretariat information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States
	(c) Accessing experience
	(d) Information management activities
Table 4.4	Assessment of Party information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessment
	(c) Conservation Measures
	(d) Reporting

**Table 4.1 - AEW A Agreement**

Article	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party	Information required by Secretariat
Article I	Scope, Definition and Interpretation of terms used	None	None
Article II	<i>Fundamental Principles</i> identifying the responsibilities of Parties and referring to the annexed conservation and management plan	Distribution of the species and populations covered by the Agreement within national boundaries.	List of species covered by the Agreement
Article III	Concerns Party responsibilities for <i>general conservation measures</i>		Distribution of species and populations covered by the Agreement
		Conservation status of listed species	List of species covered by the Agreement
			Conservation status of listed species
		Assessment of ecology and other information to support assessment of the sustainability of any use of listed species	Facilitate exchange of information
		Identification of sites and habitats for migratory waterbirds	Compile information on key sites and habitats
		Compile the information necessary to coordinate of site-level action between sites	Facilitate exchange of information
		Characterise threats for listed species, and measures necessary to counter those threats	Facilitate exchange of information
		Understanding of actions necessary to cope with emergency situations	Facilitate exchange of information
		Assessment of the potential impact of introduced non-native species of waterbird	Facilitate exchange of information

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
		Location of populations of introduced non-native species of waterbird	Facilitate exchange of information
		Biology and ecology of migratory waterbirds	Facilitate exchange of information
		Research and monitoring being undertaken	Facilitate exchange of information
		Exchange information and research results	Facilitate exchange of information
Article IV	Defines the <i>Action plan and conservation guidelines</i>	See Table 4.2	See Table 4.2
Article V	Concerns the <i>implementation and financing</i>	Preparation of a report on implementation of the Agreement, in an agreed form	None
Article VI	Concerning the <i>meeting of the Parties</i>	None	Information on actual and potential changes in conservation status of migratory waterbirds and their habitats  Information on factors that are having a negative effect on migratory waterbirds and their habitats  Review of progress made in implementing the Agreement
Article VII	Defines the responsibilities of the <i>Technical Committee</i>	None	Information to support delivery of "scientific and technical advice"  Information on any relevant "emergency", its potential impact, and mitigating measures that need to be undertaken
Article VIII	Defines the responsibilities of the <i>Agreement secretariat</i>	None	Report on the implementation of the Agreement

Table 4.1

<i>Article</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Article IX	Defines the <i>relations with international bodies dealing with Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats</i>	None	Information on which national and international organisations undertake relevant activities
Article X	Concerns the <i>Amendment of the Agreement</i>	None	Information on international organisations and programmes are relevant
Article XI-XII	Concerns the legal matters and formalities such as the <i>Effect of this Agreement on International Conventions and Legislation, the Settlements of disputes, the Signature, Ratification, Acceptance</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates
Article XIII-XVII	Concerns the <i>Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval, Accession, the Entry into Force, any Reservation made by a party, denunciation and the depository</i>	None	None
			Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage

Table 4.2 - AEWa Action Plan

Paragraph	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party	Information required by Secretariat
Paragraph 1	Field of application of the action plan	None	None
Paragraph 2.1	Deals with legal matters in species conservation	Information on legal measures taken to protect the species from use, trade and disturbance  Assessment of ecology and other information to support assessment of the sustainability of any use of listed species  Monitoring of hunting bags and egg collecting	None  None
Paragraph 2.2	Single Species Action Plans	Share information on developing and implementing action plans	Compile information necessary for coordination, development, harmonisation and implementation of action plans
Paragraph 2.3	Emergency measures	Background information on species, sites and potential threats	Information to support facilitation of collaboration in emergency situations
Paragraph 2.4-2.5	Concerns about re-establishing and introduction	Information on potential impact of re-establishment and introductions	List of re-establishment programmes
Paragraph 3.1	Habitat inventories	Inventory of national wetlands important to the listed populations	Coordinate development of inventories and associated liaison with international organizations where necessary
Paragraph 3.2	Conservation of areas of special importance	Identify all sites of national importance for listed species  Identification of areas of special importance and those requiring protective measures	

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
Paragraph 4.1	Management of hunting	Report on national legislation relating to hunting	
		Estimates of total annual catch for each population of listed species	Reliable and harmonised system for the collection of harvest data
		Identification of potentially harmful activities	Compiled information on potentially harmful activities and on measures to avoid or mitigate the effects
Paragraph 4.2	Management of ecotourism	Evaluate the costs, benefits and other consequences of ecotourism at selected wetlands	Compile and share information on costs, benefits and other consequences of ecotourism at wetlands
Paragraph 4.3	Management of other human activities	Compile information on damage to crops by listed species	Compile information on damage to crops by listed species
Paragraph 5	Research and monitoring	Identification of areas that have been poorly surveyed	Share experience on appropriate techniques for minimizing damage to crops by waterbirds
		Status and distribution of listed species	
		Share experience on improvements in measurement of bird population trends	Facilitate the sharing of experience on improvements in measurement of bird population trends
		Determine migration routes of all listed species	Compile and share information on migration routes of listed species
		Ecology and population dynamics of listed species	Register of research to facilitate coordination and collaboration

Table 4.2

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
		Effects of wetland loss, degradation and disturbance on the carrying capacity of wetlands used by listed populations	
		Impact of hunting and trade on listed populations, and importance of these to the local and national economy	
Paragraph 6	Education and Information	Information on training requirements	Facilitate exchange of training materials and share experiences
Paragraph 7	Implementation	List of priority populations for implementation	Information necessary for coordinating development and implementation of the action plan
		Conservation status of priority populations for implementation	Identification of conservation guidelines approved under other international instruments
			Regular review of reports on the status and trends of populations
			Regular review of gaps in information from surveys
			Regular review of the networks of sites used by each population, including reviews of the protection status of each site as well as of the management measures taken
			Regular review of the pertinent hunting and trade legislation in each country relating to listed species

Table 4.2



Table 4.3 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (a) Simple lists

Number	Task	Mandate
List 1	List of species covered by the Agreement	Article II, Article III
List 2	Distribution of species and populations covered by the Agreement	Article II
List 3	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage	Article XIII-XVII
List 4	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates	Article X

**Table 4.3 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (b) Compilation and assessment based on information from Range States**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Compile 1	Conservation status, including actual and potential changes	Article III, Article VI, Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 2	Migration routes	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Compile 3	Biology and ecology	Article III
Compile 4	Key sites and habitats	Article III
Compile 5	Review of the networks of sites used by each population, including reviews of the protection status of each site as well as of the management measures taken	Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 6	List and regular review of re-establishment programmes and projects	Action Plan Paragraph 2.4-2.5, Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 7	Location, status and potential impact of populations of non-native species of waterbird and hybrids thereof	Article III, Article VI, Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 8	Costs, benefits and other consequences of ecotourism at wetlands	Action Plan Paragraph 4.2
Compile 9	Damage to crops by listed species	Action Plan Paragraph 4.3
Compile 10	Information to support sustainability of use of listed species	Article III
Compile 11	Hunting and trade legislation in each country relating to listed species	Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 12	Potentially harmful activities and other factors that have a negative affect on migratory waterbirds and their habitats	Article III, Action Plan Paragraph 4.1
Compile 13	Regular review of gaps in information from surveys	Action Plan Paragraph 7
Compile 14	Register of research to facilitate coordination and collaboration	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Compile 15	Regular review of the stage of preparation and implementation of single species action plans, and progress made in implementing the Agreement	Article VI, Article VIII, Action Plan Paragraph 7

Table 4.3 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (c) Accessing experience

Number	Task	Mandate
Experience 1	Measures to avoid or mitigate the effects of potentially harmful activities and other threats	Article III, Action Plan Paragraph 4.1
Experience 2	Conservation guidelines approved under other international instruments	Action Plan Paragraph 7
Experience 3	Information and experience relevant to emergency response	Article III, Action Plan Paragraph 2.3
Experience 4	Improvements in measurement of bird population trends	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Experience 5	Techniques for minimising damage to crops by waterbirds	Action Plan Paragraph 4.3
Experience 6	Information on which international organisations and programmes are relevant	Article IX
Experience 7	Information on which national and international organisations undertake relevant activities	Article VIII

Table 4.3(c)

**Table 4.3 - Assessment of Secretariat information requirements (d) Information management activities**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Task 1	Compile information necessary for coordination, development, harmonisation and implementation of action plans	Action Plan Paragraph 2.2, Action Plan Paragraph 7
Task 2	Coordinate development of inventories and associated liaison with international organisations where necessary	Action Plan Paragraph 3.1
Task 3	Facilitate exchange of information and research results	Article III
Task 4	Facilitate exchange of information necessary to coordinate site-level action	Article III
Task 5	Facilitate exchange of information on research and monitoring	Article III
Task 6	Facilitate exchange of training materials and share experiences	Action Plan Paragraph 6
Task 7	Information on any relevant “emergency”, its potential impact, and mitigating measures that need to be undertaken	Article VII
Task 8	Information to support delivery of “scientific and technical advice”	Article VII
Task 9	Reliable and harmonised system for the collection of harvest data	Action Plan Paragraph 4.1

**Table 4.4 - Assessment of Party information requirements (a) Simple Lists**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
List	List of priority populations for implementation	Action Plan Paragraph 7

**Table 4.4 - Assessment of Party information requirements (b) Assessment**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 1	Conservation status of listed species	Article III
Assess 2	Conservation status of priority populations for implementation of the action plan	Action Plan Paragraph 7, Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 3	Distribution of listed species and populations	Article II, Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 4	Migration routes of listed species	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 5	Biology, ecology and population dynamics of migratory waterbirds	Article III, Action Plan Paragraph 2.3, Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 6	Identify of sites and habitats for migratory waterbirds	Article III
Assess 7	Identify areas of special importance and those requiring protective measures	Action Plan Paragraph 2.3, Action Plan Paragraph 3.2
Assess 8	Identify sites of national importance for listed species	Action Plan Paragraph 3.1
Assess 9	Inventory national wetlands important to the listed populations	Action Plan Paragraph 3.1
Assess 10	Identify areas that have been poorly surveyed	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 11	Characterise potentially harmful activities and other threats for listed species	Article III, Action Plan Paragraphs 2.3 and 4.1
Assess 12	Effects of wetland loss, degradation and disturbance on the carrying capacity of wetlands used by listed populations	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 13	Compile information on damage to crops by listed species	Action Plan Paragraph 4.3
Assess 14	Information on potential impact of re-establishment and introductions	Action Plan Paragraph 2.4-2.5
Assess 15	Location of populations of introduced non-native species of waterbird	Article III
Assess 16	Assessment of the potential impact of introduced non-native species of waterbird	Article III

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 17	Evaluate the costs, benefits and other consequences of ecotourism at selected wetlands	Action Plan Paragraph 4.2
Assess 18	Impact of hunting and trade on listed populations, and importance of these to the local and national economy	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Assess 19	Estimates of total annual catch for each population of listed species (hunting bags and egg collecting)	Action Plan Paragraph 4.1, Action Plan Paragraph 2.1
Assess 20	Information on training requirements	Action Plan Paragraph 6

Table 4.4(b)

Table 4.4 - Assessment of Party information requirements (c) Conservation measures

Number	Task	Mandate
Measures 1	Compile information necessary to co-ordinate site-level action between sites	Article III
Measures 2	Legal measures taken to protect the species from use, trade and disturbance	Action Plan Paragraph 2.1
Measures 3	Share experience on improvements in measurement of bird population trends	Action Plan Paragraph 5
Measures 4	Share information on developing and implementing action plans	Action Plan Paragraph 2.2
Measures 5	Measures necessary to counter threats	Article III
Measures 6	Understanding of actions necessary to cope with emergency situations	Article III

Table 4.4 - Assessment of Party information requirements (d) Reporting

Number	Task	Mandate
Report 1	Preparation of a report on implementation of the Agreement, in an agreed form	Article V
Report 2	Exchange information and research results	Article III
Report 3	Research and monitoring being undertaken	Article III
Report 4	Report on national legislation relating to hunting	Action Plan Paragraph 4.1
Report 5	Assessment of ecology and other information to support assessment of the sustainability of any use of listed species	Article III, Action Plan Paragraph 2.1



***Table 5 - Assessment of ACCOBAMS information requirements***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 5.1	Agreement
Table 5.2	Agreement Annex - Conservation Plan
Table 5.3	Analysis of Secretariat information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Compilation and assessment
	(c) Accessing experience and sharing information
	(d) Information management activities
Table 5.4	Analysis of Party information requirements
	(a) Simple lists
	(b) Assessment
	(c) Conservation measures
	(d) Reporting

**Table 5.1 - ACCOBAMS Agreement**

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Article I	<i>Scope, Definitions and Interpretation</i>	Nothing other than the definitions provided in the Agreement	Nothing other than the definitions provided in the Agreement
Article II	<i>Purpose and basic arrangements</i> , identifying the responsibilities of Parties and referring to conservation plan Annex	See Table 5.2	See Table 5.2
Article III	Concerns the form and function of the <i>meeting of the Parties</i>	Information necessary for establishment of a network of specially protected areas to conserve cetaceans	Information necessary for defining international priorities in establishing a network of specially protected areas to conserve cetaceans
		Information on any capture of cetaceans, legal or illegal	Information on any exceptions to the Articles of the Agreement granted
		Information compiled by the Secretariat as the basis for review and decision taking (much of it based on the national reports).	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates
Article IV	Defines the responsibilities of the <i>Agreement Secretariat</i>		Assessment of the conservation status of cetaceans in the Agreement area, and the habitats and other factors important for their survival
			Review progress made in implementation of the Agreement
		None, although Secretariat information will derive in part from Parties	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates
			Information on range states of species covered by the Agreement

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Article V	Concerns the responsibilities of <i>co-ordination units</i> within each sub-region	Information compiled by the Secretariat as the basis for review and decision taking (much of it based on the national reports).	Information on which other bodies are relevant to conservation of cetaceans in the region
			Information on what human actions are harmful to cetaceans and where they occur
			Information on what habitat protection and natural resource management methods are required
			Information to support emergency measures and rescue methods
			Collect, evaluate and disseminate information that will further the objectives and implementation of the Agreement within each sub-region
			Periodic review of the status and trends of populations within each sub-region
Article VI	Defines the responsibilities of the <i>Bureau</i>	None identified	Identification of gaps in scientific knowledge within each sub-region
			Periodic review of important areas for cetaceans in the sub-region
			Periodic compilation of information on national authorities, research and rescue centres, scientists and NGOs concerned with cetaceans
			None identified

Table 5.1

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Article VII	Defines the responsibilities of the <i>Scientific Committee</i>	None	<p>Assessment of the conservation status of cetacean populations</p> <p>Review scientific research and monitoring on cetaceans in order to support advice on its development and coordination</p> <p>Facilitate the exchange of scientific information</p> <p>Facilitate the exchange of information on experience</p> <p>None identified by the Article apart from contact details</p>
Article VIII	On <i>communication and reporting</i>	Annual report on progress made and difficulties experienced during the past calendar year in implementing the Agreement	
Article IX	Concerning <i>financial arrangements</i>	None	None
Article X	Concerning the future <i>amendment of the Agreement</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their adoption of amendments to the Agreement
Article XI-XII	Dealing with the effect of this Agreement on <i>legislation and international conventions, and the settlement of disputes</i>	None	None
Article XIII-XVII	Concerning the <i>signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the entry into force, reservations, denunciation, and the depositary</i>	None	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage

**Table 5.2 - ACCOBAMS Agreement Annex - Conservation Plan**

<b>Paragraph</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</b>	<b>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</b>
Annex Section 1	<p>Legal measures to minimize adverse effects of fisheries, including discard of fishing gear and release of cetaceans incidentally caught</p> <p>Measures to require impact assessments on activities that may affect cetaceans and their habitats</p> <p>Measures to regulate discharge at sea of pollutants that may adversely affect cetaceans</p> <p>Strengthening of national institutions to further implementation of the Agreement</p>	<p>Understanding of the fishing techniques used in-country, and the potential impacts of fishing on cetaceans</p> <p>Identification of those activities likely to have an impact on cetaceans</p> <p>Identification of pollutants that may have an adverse effect, and the sources of discharge</p>	<p>Overview of the potential impacts of fishing on cetaceans in order to brief Parties</p> <p>Identification of those activities which are likely to affect cetaceans, in order to brief Parties</p> <p>Identification of pollutants that may have an affect on cetaceans</p>
Annex Section 2	<p>Collection and analysis of data on direct and indirect interactions between humans and cetaceans</p>	<p>Collection and management of data on impact of fishing</p> <p>Collection and management of data on impact of industrial activities</p> <p>Collection and management of data on impact of tourist activities</p> <p>Collection and management of data on impact of land-based and maritime pollution</p>	<p>Compilation of information from Parties and other sources</p> <p>Identification of international organisations that could assist Parties in implementing their obligations</p>
Annex Section 3	<p>Establishment and management of specially protected areas for cetaceans</p>	<p>Location of key areas for cetaceans, both in terms of habitat and food resources</p>	

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
Annex Section 4	Coordinated, concerted research on cetaceans and their conservation	Shared understanding of research required	Overview of research and research needs, to support coordination
	Monitor status and trends	Status and trends of cetacean populations	Compiled information on status and trends
		Identification of poorly known areas and species, to direct future monitoring	
	Determine migration routes, breeding and feeding areas	Information on movements of cetaceans, and the use made of different parts of their range	Facilitate the sharing of information between Parties on the migration routes, and breeding and feeding areas of cetaceans
	Evaluate feeding requirements	Understanding of the food resources and feeding locations used by cetaceans	
Annex Section 5	Develop systematic research programmes on dead, stranded, wounded and sick animals	Research programme on dead, stranded, wounded and sick cetaceans	Facilitate sharing of information arising from research programmes on dead, stranded, wounded and sick cetaceans
	Development of passive acoustic techniques for monitoring	Experience of other in using passive acoustic monitoring	Facilitate the sharing of experience on passive acoustic monitoring
	Development of common tools for collection and dissemination of information		Coordination of development of information management and dissemination tools
	Systems for collecting data on observations, strandings, etc		Facilitate development of a coordinated approach to information collection and dissemination
	Lists of contacts to support activities		Compiled lists of national authorities, research and rescue centres, scientist and NGOs concerned with cetaceans
	Directory of protected areas		Directory of protected and managed areas, and other sites important for cetaceans

<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party to implement what is mandated</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat to implement what is mandated</i>
	Directory of legislation		Compile a directory of relevant national legislation
	Development of regional databases of the above information		Development of regional databases based on information on observational information, contacts, protected areas and legislation
	Synthesis of veterinary recommendations	Information on the experience of others	
	Training programmes on conservation techniques	Information on the experience of others	
Annex Section 6	Responses to emergency situations	Information on the experience of others in dealing with emergency situations	

Table 5.2

**Table 5.3 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (a) Simple lists**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
List 1	Information on range states of species covered by the Agreement	Based on details received from Parties and other experts	Article IV
List 2	Information on the status of each Party or potential Party, with respect to their adoption of the Agreement, reservations made and entry into force, with dates of each major stage	Based on details received from Parties and the Depository	Article XIII-XVII
List 3	Information on the status of each Party with respect to their acceptance of amendments and entry into force, with dates	Based on details received from Parties and the Depository	Article III, Article IV ,Article X
List 4	Information on any exceptions to the Articles of the Agreement granted	Based on details received from Parties and the Depository	Article II
List 5	Contact details for Parties	Based on details received from Parties	Article VIII
List 6	Periodic compilation of information on national authorities, research and rescue centres, scientists and NGOs concerned with cetaceans	Based on details received from Parties and other experts	Article V, Annex Section 2, Annex Section 5

**Table 5.3 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (b)Compilation and assessment**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 1	Assessment of the conservation status of cetaceans in the Agreement area, and the habitats and other factors important for their survival		Article III, Article VII
Assess 2	Periodic review of the status and trends of populations within each sub-region		Article V
Assess 3	Periodic review of important areas for cetaceans in each sub-region		Article V
Assess 4	Information necessary for defining international priorities in establishing a network of specially protected areas to conserve cetaceans		Article II
Assess 5	Identification of those activities which are likely to affect cetaceans, in order to brief Parties		Annex Section I
Assess 6	Identification of pollutants that may have an affect on cetaceans		Annex Section I
Assess 7	Overview of the potential impacts of fishing on cetaceans in order to brief Parties		Annex Section I
Assess 8	Overview of research and research needs, to support coordination		Annex Section 4
Assess 9	Identification of gaps in scientific knowledge within each sub-region		Article V
Assess 10	Review scientific research and monitoring on cetaceans in order to support advice on its development and coordination		Article VII

Table 5.3(b)

**Table 5.3 – Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (c) Accessing experience and sharing information**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Source</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Access 1	Facilitate the exchange of information on experience		Article VII
Access 2	Facilitate the exchange of scientific information		Article VII
Access 3	Facilitate the sharing of information between Parties on the migration routes, and breeding and feeding areas of cetaceans		Annex Section 4
Access 4	Information on what habitat protection and natural resource management methods are required		Article IV
Access 5	Information on what human actions are harmful to cetaceans and where they occur		Article IV
Access 6	Information on which other bodies are relevant to conservation of cetaceans in the region		Article IV
Access 7	Information to support emergency measures and rescue methods		Article IV
Access 8	Facilitate the sharing of experience on passive acoustic monitoring		Annex Section 4
Access 9	Facilitate sharing of information arising from research programmes on dead, stranded, wounded and sick cetaceans		Annex Section 4

**Table 5.3 - Analysis of Secretariat information requirements (d) Information management activities**

Task 1	Compile information from Parties and other sources	Annex Section 2
Task 2	Review progress made in implementation of the Agreement	Article III
Task 3	Collect, evaluate and disseminate information that will further the objectives and implementation of the Agreement within each sub-region	Article V
Task 4	Compile information on status and trends	Annex Section 4
Task 5	Compile a directory of protected and managed areas, and other sites important for cetaceans	Annex Section 5
Task 6	Compile a directory of relevant national legislation	Annex Section 5
Task 7	Coordinate development of information management and dissemination tools	Annex Section 5
Task 8	Facilitate development of a coordinated approach to information collection and dissemination	Annex Section 5
Task 9	Develop regional databases based on information on observational information, contacts, protected areas and legislation	Annex Section 5

**Table 5.4 - Analysis of Party information requirements (a) Simple Lists**

Number	Task	Mandate
[NO LISTS]		

**Table 5.4 - Analysis of Party information requirements (b) Assessment**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Assess 1	Status and trends of cetacean populations	Annex Section 4
Assess 2	Information on movements of cetaceans, and the use made of different parts of their range	Annex Section 4
Assess 3	Location of key areas for cetaceans, both in terms of habitat and food resources	Annex Section 3
Assess 4	Identification of poorly known areas and species, to direct future monitoring	Annex Section 4
Assess 5	Understanding of the food resources and feeding locations used by cetaceans	Annex Section 4
Assess 6	Information necessary for establishment of a network of specially protected areas to conserve cetaceans	Article II
Assess 7	Identification of those activities likely to have an impact on cetaceans	Annex Section 1
Assess 8	Collection and management of data on impact of fishing	Annex Section 2
Assess 9	Collection and management of data on impact of industrial activities	Annex Section 2
Assess 10	Collection and management of data on impact of land-based and maritime pollution	Annex Section 2
Assess 11	Collection and management of data on impact of tourist activities	Annex Section 2
Assess 12	Identification of pollutants that may have an adverse effect, and the sources of discharge	Annex Section 1
Assess 13	Information on any capture of cetaceans, legal or illegal	Article II
Assess 14	Understanding of the fishing techniques used in-country, and the potential impacts of fishing on cetaceans	Annex Section 1

Table 5.4 - Analysis of Party information requirements (c) Conservation Measures

Number	Task	Mandate
Measure 1	Information on the experience of others	Annex Section 5
Measure 2	Shared understanding of research required	Annex Section 4
Measure 3	Research programme on dead, stranded, wounded and sick cetaceans	Annex Section 4
Measure 4	Information on the experience of others in dealing with emergency situations	Annex Section 6
Measure 5	Experience of other in using passive acoustic monitoring	Annex Section 4

**Table 5.4 - Analysis of Party information requirements (d) Reporting**

<i>Number</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Mandate</i>
Report 1	Annual report on progress made and difficulties experienced during the past calendar year in implementing the Agreement	Article VIII



***Table 6 - Harmonization of Agreements***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 6.1	Guidelines for content of Agreements
Table 6.2	Guidelines for harmonization of Agreements

Table 6.1 - Guidelines for content of Agreements

Mandate	Summary	Information required by Contracting Party	Information required by Secretariat
Article V	Identify the migratory species covered	Conservation status of identified species within their territories	Assessment of conservation status of the migratory species covered
	Describe the range and migration routes of those species	Distribution and behaviour of listed species within their territories	Review of the distribution and migratory behaviour of the species covered
	Accession by Parties	Who other Parties are	List of Parties to the Agreement
	Monitor effectiveness of implementation of agreement	Action being taken within their territories to conserve the identified species	Action taken by Parties and its results
	Preparation of reports	None	Compilation of information listed above
	Periodic review of conservation status of species	Periodic review of conservation status of species within their territories	Periodic review of conservation status of species
	Identification of factors which may be harmful to the conservation status	List of potentially harmful factors, and their possible effect on listed species	List of potentially harmful factors, and their possible effect on listed species
	Co-ordinated conservation and management plans	Information on management action begun undertaken both within the Party's territories and elsewhere	Compiled information on conservation and management action being carried out by Parties
	Research into the ecology and population dynamics	Research into the species ecology and population dynamics	Co-ordinated information on ongoing research
	Exchange of information	Exchange of information	Co-ordination of the exchange of information
	Conservation and restoration of habitats of importance for identified species	Measures required for conservation and management of these habitats	Co-ordination of information to share experience between Parties
	Network of suitable habitats	Where key habitats are	International overview of key habitats

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>
	Provision of new habitats, or reintroduction of migratory species	Identification of gaps in habitats network	International overview of key habitats
	Dealing with barriers to migration	Identification of barriers to migration	Compiled information on barriers to migration
		Measures required for dealing with barriers	Sharing experience from elsewhere
	Release of substances harmful to migratory species	Identification of substances which may be harmful	Compiled information on substances which may be harmful
		Measures required for dealing with the problem	Sharing experience from elsewhere
	Controlling the taking of migratory species	What the take is and the impact of this on conservation status	Impact of take of species on its conservation status
		Measures required for dealing with the problem	Sharing experience from elsewhere
	Co-ordination of action to suppress illegal take	What and where the take is occurring	What and where the take is occurring
		Sharing experience with others	Sharing experience from elsewhere
	Exchange of information on threats	Exchange of information	Co-ordination of the exchange of information
	Emergency procedures	What is the previous experience, and experience elsewhere	Sharing experience from elsewhere

Table 6.1

### Table 6.2 - Guidelines for harmonization of Agreements

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Information required by Contracting Party</i>	<i>Information required by Secretariat</i>

[TO BE DEVELOPED BASED ON THE PAPER DRAFTED BY CYRILLE DE KLEMM FOR COP VI]

***Table 7 - Assessment of parallels with other biodiversity-related conventions***

<b><i>Table</i></b>	<b><i>Title</i></b>
Table 7.1	Comparison of formats for amending CMS and CITES appendices

Table 7.1 - Comparison of formats for amending CMS and CITES appendices

Convention on Migratory Species		CITES	
Headings	Explanatory notes	Headings	Explanatory notes
<b>A. PROPOSAL</b>	Definition of the proposal (species, sub-species or higher taxon; whether the entire or only part of the population should be included; whether inclusion in Appendix I or II or in both appendices is proposed).	<b>A. PROPOSAL</b>	The proponent should indicate the intent of the specific action being proposed and the relevant criteria against which the proposal is to be judged.
<b>B. PROPONENT</b>	Official name of the Contracting Party submitting the proposal.	<b>B. PROPONENT</b>	The proponent may only be a Party to the Convention, in accordance with Article XV of the Convention.
<b>C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT</b>	A brief selection of the most important scientific data which explain and substantiate the proposal; these data may be gathered from technical literature or from reports which have so far not been published (indication of source). The proposals should contain the following details:	<b>C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT</b>	
<b>1. Taxon</b>	Taxonomy: the relevant scientific names as well as the names in those languages in which the official Convention text was drawn up.	<b>1. Taxonomy</b>	The proponent should provide sufficient information to allow the Conference of the Parties to identify clearly the taxon that is the subject of the proposal.
1.1 Classis		1.1 Class	
1.2 Ordo		1.2 Order	
1.3 Familia		1.3 Family	

Convention on Migratory Species	CITES
Headings	Headings
Explanatory notes	Explanatory notes
1.4 Genus or species resp. subspecies, including author and year	1.4 Genus, species or subspecies, including author and year
	If the species concerned is included in one of the standard lists of names or taxonomic references adopted by the Conference of the Parties, the name provided by that reference should be entered here. If the species concerned is not included in one of the adopted standard references, the proponent should provide references as to the source of the name used.
	1.5 Scientific synonyms
1.5 Common name(s), where applicable	1.6 Common names
	The proponent should provide information on other scientific names or synonyms under which the species concerned may be known currently, especially if these names are used in the trade in the species.
	1.7 Code numbers
	If the species concerned is already included in the appendices, refer to the code numbers in the CITES Identification Manual.
2. Biological data	2. Biological parameters
	The information required in this section is a summary of the principal results of surveys, literature searches, and other studies. The references used must be listed in section 8. It is understood that the quality of information available will vary a lot. But these instructions indicate the type of information that is required.

Table 7.1

# Convention on Migratory Species

## CITES

### Headings

### Explanatory notes

### Headings

### Explanatory notes

2.1 Distribution (current and historical) - see also 5

Description of the range, including changes in historical times as well as division of the overall range into reproduction, migrating and wintering (resting) ranges; add a map, if necessary.

2.1 Distribution

Give an estimate of the current range of the species, and specify the references used. Specify the types of habitats occupied and, if possible, the extent of each habitat type over the range of the species. If possible, provide information to indicate whether or not the distribution of the species is continuous and, if it is not, indicate to what degree it is fragmented.

2.5 Geographic trends

Give data on the nature, rate and extent of decrease in range area or number of sub-populations, if possible with information from at least three points in time. Give data on the degree and periodicity of fluctuations in range area or number of sub-populations, if possible with information from at least three points in time.

2.2 Population (estimates and trends)

Short quantitative characterisation of the population (number, sizes, quantitative data from test areas) and its changes, including the population trend (extent and rate).

2.3 Population status

Give an estimate of the total population or number of individuals with: i) date and nature of census; and ii) justification for any inferences made about total population size and/or number of individuals. Give the number of sub-populations, where possible their estimated size, and the date and method of census. Give an estimate of, or information on, the size of the population in captivity.

Convention on Migratory Species		CITES	
Headings	Explanatory notes	Headings	Explanatory notes

2.3 Habitat (short description and trends)	Short ecological characterisation of habitats which are used by one or more animal species; indication of the most important structures of habitats which are responsible for the survival of the species during migration and in its wintering (resting) areas.	2.4 Population trends	Basic, quantitative and referenced information should be provided on whether the population of the species is increasing, stable or declining. The period over which the trend, if any, has been measured should be indicated. If the species naturally undergoes marked fluctuations in population size, information should be provided to demonstrate that the trend transcends natural fluctuations. If generation-time has been used in estimating the trend, state how the generation-time has been estimated.
		2.2 Habitat availability	Give information on the nature, rate and extent of habitat loss and/or degradation, if possible with information from at least three points in time, and give the basis for future projections.
		2.6 Role of the species in its ecosystem	Give information about the specific relationship that exists between this species and others living in the same ecosystem. Indicate the possible consequences of depletion of the population of the species proposed for listing, for those depending on or associated with it.

Table 7.1

Convention on Migratory Species		CITES	
Headings	Explanatory notes	Headings	Explanatory notes
2.4 Migrations (kinds of movement, distance, proportion of the population migrating)	Description of the character of regular migrations, indicating the geographical extent of the population movements and including information on whether the entire or only part (which ?) of the population undertakes regular migrations.		
3. Threat data	Threat data: Listing of factors - broken down into four groups which are responsible for the species being endangered or for its poor conservation status; as far as factors 1 to 3 are concerned, it must also be specified whether these factors are operating in breeding, migrating or resting areas.		
3.1 Direct threat of the population (factors, intensity)		2.7 Threats	Specify the nature, intensity and extent of threats (e.g. habitat loss and/or degradation; exploitation; effects of introduced species, competitors, pathogens, parasites, predators, hybridization and the effects of toxins and pollutants; etc) , if possible with information from at least three points in time, and give the basis for future projections.
3.2 Habitat destruction (quality of changes, quantity of loss)			
3.3 Indirect threat (e.g. reduction of breeding success by pesticide contamination)			
3.4 Threat connected especially with migrations			

Convention on Migratory Species		CITES
Headings	Explanatory notes	Headings
3.5 National and international utilisation		3 Utilization and trade
		3.1 National utilization
		<p>Give data on the level of exploitation, indicating trends if possible. Specify the purposes of exploitation. Provide details of harvest methods. Assess the importance of the offtake and the relationship between national and international trade. Provide details of any stockpiles known to exist, and the measures that might be taken to dispose of them. Where applicable, provide details of commercial captive-breeding or artificial propagation operations for the species in question, including the size of captive stock and the production, and the extent to which these operations are either contributing to a conservation programme or meeting a demand that would otherwise be met by specimens from the wild.</p>
		3.2 Legal international trade
		<p>Quantify the level of international trade, identifying the source of statistics used (e.g. Customs statistics, CITES annual report data, FAO data, industry reports, etc.). Provide justification for inferences made about trade levels. Provide information about the nature of the trade (e.g. primarily for commercial purposes, primarily live specimens, primarily parts and derivatives, primarily of captive-bred or artificially propagated specimens, etc.) and about how the proposed amendment is expected to affect the nature of the trade.</p>

Table 7.1

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3.3 Illegal trade

To the extent possible, quantify the level of illegal trade, including national and international trade, and provide details of the nature of this trade. Assess the relative importance of this trade as it relates to legal offtake for national use or legal international trade. Provide information on how the proposed amendment is expected to affect the nature of the trade.

3.4 Actual or potential trade impacts

Comment on the actual or potential trade impacts of the proposed amendment on the species in question, and on the reason for believing that trade might become a threat to the survival of the species in question, or on whether trade may be beneficial to the survival of the species in question. Where applicable, include information on the actual or potential ecological impacts of the change in trade controls.

3.5 Captive breeding or artificial propagation for commercial purposes (outside country of origin)

To the extent possible, provide information on the extent of captive breeding or artificial propagation outside the country or countries of origin.

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4. Protection status and needs

Apart from the legal conservation status in the various Range States and from information on international conservation (under other Conventions), concrete conservation requirements (4.3) should be listed which must be met in order to improve the conservation status of the species. Apart from providing direct protection to the population, proposals from the field of biotope conservation should be listed and explained (if necessary).

4.1 National protection status

4.1 Legal status

4.1 National

Provide details of legislation relating to the conservation of the species, including its habitat, either specifically (such as endangered species legislation) or generally (such as legislation on wildlife and accompanying regulations) . Indicate the nature of legal protection (i.e. is the species totally protected, or whether harvesting is regulated or controlled) . Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of this legislation in ensuring the protection and/or wise management of the species. Provide similar information relating to legislation governing the management of trade in the species in question. Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of this legislation in controlling illegal trade in the species.

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4. Conservation and Management

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4.2 International protection status	4.1.2 International	In preparing proposals to amend the appendices, consult in advance with the relevant competent intergovernmental organization and management of the species, and take their views fully into account. Provide details of international instruments relating to the species in question, including the nature of the protection afforded by such instruments. Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of these instruments in ensuring the protection and/or wise management of the species. Provide similar information relating to international instruments relating to the management of trade in the species in question. Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of these instruments in controlling illegal trade in the species.
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4.3 Additional protection needs

4.2 Species management

4.2.1 Population monitoring

Provide details of programmes in place in the range States to monitor the status of wild populations and the sustainability of offtake from the wild. Such programmes might be under the auspices of government or through non-governmental organizations or scientific institutions. Indicate the extent to which non-governmental monitoring programmes link to governmental decision-making.

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#### 4.2.2 Habitat conservation

Provide details of programmes in place in the range States to protect the habitat of the species in question, both inside and outside protected areas. Provide details about the nature of the protection offered by the programmes in question.

#### 4.2.3 Management measures

Provide details of programmes in place in the range States to manage populations of the species in question (e.g. controlled harvest from the wild, captive breeding or artificial propagation, reintroduction, ranching, quota systems, etc.). Include, where appropriate, details such as planned harvest rates, planned population sizes, mechanisms for ensuring that the advice of those responsible for management of the species is taken into account, mechanisms and criteria for the establishment of quotas, etc. Where applicable, provide details of any mechanisms used to ensure a return from utilization of the species in question to conservation and/or management programmes (e.g. pricing schemes, community ownership plans, export tariffs, etc.).

#### 4.3 Control measures

##### 4.3.1 International trade

Provide information regarding measures in place, in addition to CITES, to control the movement of specimens of the species in question across international borders. Include information about marking schemes in place, if any.

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4.3.2 Domestic measures

Provide information regarding controls in the range States aimed at ensuring a sustainable harvest from the wild of the species in question. Include information on education, compliance and enforcement activities as appropriate and an assessment of the effectiveness of the programmes.

5. Information on similar species

Give the names of species of which specimens in trade look very similar, state how they may be distinguished, and explain whether or not it is reasonable to expect an informed non-expert to be able to make a firm identification. Outline measures that would need to be taken to handle potential difficulties in distinguishing between specimens of this and similar species. If the proposed amendment would be likely to lead to an increase in trade in the species concerned, explain why this would not result in unsustainable trade in similar species.

5. Range States

Listing of States where the occurrence of species has been proved (indicating, perhaps, whether these are breeding, migrating or resting ranges).

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<p><b>6. Comments from Range States</b></p> <p>It is necessary to consult, as far as possible, experts and/or nature conservation authorities of the other Range States before the proposal is submitted and to give a brief outline of their comments upon the proposal on this format. These data make it easier both for the Scientific Council and for the Conference of the Parties to take the necessary decisions.</p>	<p><b>6. Other comments</b></p> <p>Provide details of the consultation undertaken to secure comments on the proposal from the range States of the species, either through direct contact or via the CITES Secretariat. Comments received from each country should be provided. Where comments were sought but not received in sufficient time to enable their inclusion in the supporting statement, this should be noted, as well as the date of the request. In cases of consultation with Parties via the CITES Secretariat, information from range States and non-range States should be separated. In the case of species that are also managed through other international agreements or intergovernmental bodies, provide details of the consultations undertaken to obtain the comments of those organizations or bodies, and indicate how those comments have been addressed in the supporting statement. Where comments were sought but not received in sufficient time to enable their inclusion in the supporting statement, this should be noted, as well as the date of the request.</p>

7. Additional remarks	7. Additional remarks
8. References	8. References





